

Dulzin hints Soviets may open the doors

The Jewish News

32 Pages

Thursday, January 1, 1987

Kislev 30, 5747

50¢

Second Class Mail Registration Number 1683 - Postage Paid at Toronto

...breach of religious freedom

Sunday closing ruling hit

By
PAUL LUNGEN

TORONTO —

The recent decision of the Supreme Court of Canada that Ontario's Sunday closing law is valid despite infringing on religious freedom has been criticized for failing to reflect Canada's multicultural nature.

Spokesmen for Canadian Jewish Congress, the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews and others affected by the decision have attacked the judgment. The court decision upholds the validity of the Retail Business Holidays Act, which compels businesses to close on Sunday unless they fall within stated exemptions.

"It is a disappointment," said Charles Zaionz, chairman of Ontario Region of Congress.

"Sunday closings present unique difficulties to a significant segment of our community who observe or would wish to observe Sabbath restrictions on Saturday," said Les Scheininger, Con-

gress' honorary legal counsel.

Referring to the 6-1 court decision, Scheininger said five justices acknowledged there was "an infringement of religious freedom. Therefore we are seriously concerned that the court nevertheless ruled this law is constitutional."

Scheininger told a meeting of CJC, Ontario Region, that Congress must remain "aware" of the "compelling arguments" presented by the trade union movement and workers "that they require a day of rest."

Notwithstanding that, he added, the finding that there was a breach of religious freedom which was justified is "of some concern to us."

Scheininger said the issues will likely be discussed at a meeting of CJC's national executive on Jan. 17.

Dr. Victor Goldbloom, president of the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews, is reported to have criticized the decision for "not reflecting the multi-religious diversity of

[Cont'd. on Page 12]

AJCongress supports ruling against menorah on state land

NEW YORK —

The AJCongress successfully joined in an action before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 8th Circuit, which upheld an earlier decision by a lower court opposing the placement of a menorah on the Iowa state capitol in Des Moines.

The AJCongress amicus, or friend-of-the-court, brief successfully argued that the placement of the menorah, a religious symbol, on Iowa state grounds for the whole week of the Chanukah holidays would be

an endorsement of religion by government and therefore in violation of the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment.

The action initially had been brought by the Lubavitch of Iowa, Inc., which had sought permission to erect a menorah on the state capitol steps.

State officials, citing constitutional concerns, had refused to allow the menorah to remain during the Chanukah week. Instead, the state had offered the Lubavitch the right to conduct a candlelighting ceremony on state capitol grounds,

provided the menorah be removed after the ceremony.

The AJCongress brief supported the state's contention and argued that a religious symbol used in the context of a religious ceremony and then removed, does not carry with it the same implicit state imprimatur as a symbol permitted to remain alone on public property. In the latter case, the symbol functions less as an expression of religious freedom and more as a form of religious establishment forbidden by the constitution.

[Cont'd. on Page 12]

JERUSALEM (JTA) —

Leon Dulzin, chairman of the Jewish Agency and World Zionist Organization Executive, attested last week to a glimmer of hope that migration restrictions on Soviet Jews may soon be eased.

At a press conference here, and in remarks to an Israel Radio reporter Dulzin was extremely chary. He spoke of "a feeling that we may be nearing a new period" with respect to Jewish emigration from the USSR.

There are "no firm indications," he stressed. "Rather it is a matter of sensing and assessing." He cited the release of dissident Soviet scientist Andrei Sakharov from his seven years of internal exile in the closed city of Gorky as a sign of some sensitivity by the Soviet authorities to human rights problems.

He spoke vaguely of contacts among low-level diplomats in various cities.

He named neither the diplomats nor the cities and emphasized that there has been no breakthrough on a high policy-making level. He told Israel Radio that his feelings might be based on misinformation dispensed with calculation by Moscow.

Nevertheless, should a substantial departure of Jews from the USSR materialize, Dulzin stressed that steps must be taken to avert "neshira" (dropouts) among Jews who cross the Soviet border with Israeli visas but opt to settle in countries other than Israel.

He said the Jewish Agency hoped to arrange direct flights from Moscow to Tel Aviv. The agency's director-general, Shlomo Gazit, said there were reports that such flights may be undertaken by Tarom, the Romanian airline, but that was premature. Romania is the only Eastern bloc country that has diplomatic rela-

tions with Israel and maintains flights to Tel Aviv.

According to Israel Radio, Dulzin said he was trying to persuade Washington not to facilitate the dropout of Soviet Jews, most of whom have been going to the U.S. The radio report stressed that officials dealing with Soviet Jewry and U.S. politicians do not foresee any large emigration of Jews in the near future. Those sources said that Soviet officials spoke bluntly in recent conversations against any easing of emigration restrictions in the near future.

Dulzin said at his press conference that the Jewish Agency and the absorption ministry are working on a master plan to absorb a large number of olim who hopefully might come to Israel. "It is not a matter of budgets. They will surely be available. Rather it is a matter of efficient, humane absorption," he said.

50 Soviet emigres return as policy change reported

NEW YORK (AP) —

Fifty Soviet emigres headed back to Moscow this week after unhappy years in the United States and some say they are looking forward to being home despite an uncertain future in the USSR.

Meanwhile, in London, The Sunday Times reported that Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev will release thousands of political prisoners next year in a major change of kremlin policy toward dissidents.

The Times report, which quoted "senior Soviet sources in Moscow," said a commission consisting of

representatives of the KGB secret police, the Communist Party and the government's legal department has been set up to organize the mass release of political prisoners.

The newspaper said the first sign of the policy change was the release from internal exile of Andrei Sakharov, the human rights activist.

The Times' correspondent, Edmund Stevens, said: "There is widespread and open debate among Soviet intellectuals and scientists, the two groups of the Soviet elite who most favor a relaxation over human rights, that Gor-

bachov intends to launch the most dramatic reforms since the days of Nikita Khrushchev."

Soviet officials could not be reached to comment on the report.

In New York, many in the Russian contingent — which Soviet officials say is the largest group to leave the U.S. — said before they boarded an Aeroflot jetliner they don't know whether they will be accepted by old friends and neighbors after their years in the West.

For many, the journey back behind the Iron

[Cont'd. on Page 12]

Congress forestalls tax sale of its national headquarters

MONTREAL —

Canadian Jewish Congress has been able to forestall the sale of its national headquarters, Samuel Bronfman House, which was to be put on the bailiff's block Dec. 1 for unpaid municipal taxes.

CJC national executive director Jack Silverstone said the sale was postponed after the Municipal Commission of Quebec rendered a decision on CJC's appeal of its tax assessment.

The City of Montreal was claiming \$212,000 in taxes going back to 1983. The Municipal Commission, however, decided that only about half of Congress property is taxable, Silverstone said. CJC is now awaiting a reassessment.

Even a reduction by half of its tax bill is not satisfactory to CJC, he said. The organization is now considering its options, such as an appeal in court, he added.

Silverstone said that contrary to rumors, sale of the Samuel Bronfman House

or its conversion into a museum, is not a serious consideration at this time.

Congress had previously not paid municipal taxes, believing itself exempt as a non-profit organization.

The Municipal Commission ruled that only the archives, exhibition hall and certain meeting rooms in the CJC building are used for public activity and are therefore untaxable.

Shamir absolved in Shin Bet affair

TEL AVIV (JTA) —

Premier Yitzhak Shamir has been absolved of any wrongdoing in the 1984 killing of two captured Arab bus hijackers by Israeli agents and the subsequent cover-up of what came to be known as the Shin Bet affair. Shin Bet is Israel's internal secret service.

A panel of lawyers set up by the Justice Ministry to investigate the episode, headed by Attorney-General Yosef Harish, detailed its findings in a 65-page document ordered to be published in full by Shamir Sunday after he received it from the attorney-general.

The panel found that

Shamir, who as Premier at the time had overall responsibility for the Shin Bet, did not order the killings nor was he implicated in attempts to cover them up. Avraham Shalom, chief of Shin Bet, claimed he had acted on orders of a higher authority. The panel criticized Shalom of trying to implicate Shamir and found his version of events unacceptable.

Shalom was forced to resign when the scandal broke several months ago. He and two associates were pardoned by President Chaim Herzog although no formal charges were brought against them.



TOWERING MENORAH

A 22-foot high menorah was erected in Ottawa's Confederation Park near Parliament Hill for Chanukah, a joint project of the Chabad-Lubavitch Youth Organization of Montreal and the local Jewish community. A heavy duty crane was required to hoist the 2,000-pound aluminum candelabra. From left are Rabbi Simcha Zirkind, Lorry Greenberg, Rabbi Mordechai Berger, Morris Kimmel and Bob White.

World-National

Composer's birthday to be marked

By
RABBI W. GUNTHER PLAUT

In a few weeks the Toronto Symphony Orchestra will pay an unusual tribute to a member of the Jewish community. It will celebrate the 70th birthday of composer Oskar Morawetz and will do so by performing his highly acclaimed and oft-played *Diary of Anne Frank*.

Morawetz belongs to that significant group of European refugees who not only found Canada a land in which they could rebuild their existence but who, in doing so, made a great contribution to their new home. Morawetz is today one of Canada's most distinguished composers whose work has won international recognition. Since he himself has a special fondness for the "Diary," Maestro Andrew Davis appropriately chose this composition to celebrate Morawetz's septuagenarian.

For long ago Morawetz had become intrigued with the spirit of that remarkable little girl who wrote about life and death, hope and despair, the ordinary and the extraordinary, and did so hidden away from the Nazis in an Amsterdam attic. After several years she and her family were discovered and shipped away to concentration camps where all of them, except her father, eventually died. Her diary, left behind but discovered after the war, captured the imagination of the world, and eventually was made into a stage and then a television play.

For his composition, Morawetz, who had become a close friend of Anne's father, chose an excerpt from the diary which was not included in the stage and TV productions. It speaks of Anne's best friend, Lies Goossens, who had already been carted away by the Nazis. Anne, believing herself secure in her hiding place, wrote of suddenly dreaming of Lies:

"Oh God, why should I have all I could wish for and why should she be seized by such a terrible fate?"

"I am not more virtuous than she; she too wanted to do what was right, why should I be chosen to live and she probably to die?" (How could Anne know that the opposite was in store for the two of them.)

"Good Lord, you have given me so much — which I certainly do not deserve — and still I do so much that is wrong every day."

"Oh God, protect Lies; protect her; defend her, save her and bring her back to us! Lies seems to be a symbol to me of the suffering of all my girl friends and all the Jews. And when I pray for her, I pray for all the Jews and for all those in need!"

In the spring of 1945 Anne and Lies met each other briefly in Bergen-Belsen concentration camp. They saw each other through a barbed wire fence. Recalls Lies, who survived the Holocaust:

"She was in rags. I saw her emaciated, sunken face in the darkness. Her eyes were very large. We cried and cried, for now there was only barbed wire between us, nothing more. And no longer any difference in our fates. I told Anne that my mother had died and my father was dying, and Anne told me that her mother had died and that she knew nothing about her father. Only her sister, Margot, was with her, but she was already very sick and died a few days later. Anne was not informed of her sister's death, but a few days later she sensed it and died soon afterwards — only seven weeks before the end of the war. She was not yet sixteen."

Morawetz's *Diary* will be performed Jan. 14, 15, and 17.



Rabbi Plaut

Chief Rabbi: "No freedom of worship"

Incident highlights religious issue

By
SUSAN BIRNBAUM

NEW YORK (JTA) —

A potentially violent, highly-charged confrontation in Jerusalem on Simchat Torah between an Orthodox rabbi and his followers and congregants of a Reform synagogue has unexpectedly enhanced the impact of the Reform movement in Israel, says Rabbi Levi Weiman-Kelman, the Reform rabbi of Kehilat Kol Hanesama.

The incident, in which Orthodox Rabbi Eliahu Abergil, the Sephardic Chief Rabbi of the Baka quarter of Jerusalem, and about 25 of his followers entered the tiny Reform synagogue, shouted expletives at the women dancing with the Torah along with the men and tried to take the Torah out of the synagogue, took on national and international overtones. (CJN Nov. 6)

The severity of the incident was exacerbated when, in a radio interview, Israeli Sephardic Chief Rabbi Mordechai Eliahu asserted that "there is no freedom of worship in Israel. There is only one Torah, and it is forbidden to recognize the legitimacy of any other way of religion."

"For the Chief Rabbi of Israel, a state employee, to say that there's no freedom of religion deeply offended — outraged — the citizens of the State of Israel who believe that theirs is a democratic country," Weiman-Kelman said here in an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. "That made your average secular Israeli feel that it was a personal attack" and not just on the Baka synagogue, he said.

Following the incident and the statement by Eliahu and Religion Minister Zevulun Hammer who also supported the Orthodox stand, the media were "just flooded," said Weiman-Kelman, and "there was just a hunger for information about the Reform movement in Israel." The incident, he added, "really exploded the Orthodox myth that Reform belongs in America and doesn't have a place in Israel."

The 33-year-old rabbi — who is the son of Rabbi Wolfe Kelman, executive vice-president of the Rabbinical Assembly of America (Conservative) — was in New York as part of a nationwide tour to garner financial support for his synagogue, which has totally outgrown its present premises, a small room in the Baka community centre which serves as an arts and crafts centre on Sundays

and a food cooperative the rest of the week.

Weiman-Kelman, who was ordained at the Conservative Jewish Theological Seminary of America, took his Conservative upbringing and his penchant for havurah-type prayer service together with his personal dynamism to the Conservative movement in Israel with a plan to inaugurate a new, egalitarian synagogue in the Baka quarter. He made aliya in 1979.

The Conservative movement, however, was not receptive at the time to his request, he said. He therefore approached the World Union for Progressive Judaism — the Reform parent body in Israel — and was warmly embraced. With \$100 seed money and two classified ads in *The Jerusalem Post* and the Hebrew-language press, Weiman-Kelman gathered 40 people for Rosh Hashanah services in 1985. His congregation now numbers 150 members. This past Yom Kippur 250 people showed up for services in the small room in the community centre that holds only 30 people. The overflow

prayed in the hallway, he said.

Originally ensconced in a room at the Labor Party clubhouse in the Baka neighborhood, the small but growing congregation of mostly English-speaking immigrants was ejected from the premises by the Labor Party, Weiman-Kelman said.

Heavy media coverage

He noted that the action was prompted because the party realized "that in the future it may be dependent on the religious parties to make a government. So it is not going to do anything in any way to offend the Orthodox religious parties." He added that the Labor Party "is by and large silent in the response to the attack on my synagogue."

Immediately following the incident, which attracted heavy media coverage in Israel and

abroad including *The CJN*, Abergil publicly apologized after Weiman-Kelman filed charges against the Orthodox rabbi. The charges included incitement to violence, attempts to steal the Torah, and offending the Reform congregation's religious feelings.

Abergil, who also apologized to the entire Baka neighborhood, wrote "an unprecedented letter of apology" in which he referred to Weiman-Kelman as a "rabbi," the "first time in the history of the State of Israel" that this was done, Weiman-Kelman said. Since the incident, Abergil has not bothered the congregation, and Weiman-Kelman dropped the charges against him.

After the incident and the publicity, Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek "made this amazing statement" that he was willing to help the Reform synagogue get a building for its congregation. Following up on Kollek's recent trip to the U.S. to raise money for synagogues in Israel — a trip paid for by modern Orthodox groups — Weiman-Kelman felt the time was ripe for him to do the same for his synagogue, and thus his own trip to the U.S.

where he visited seven cities.

Time is of the essence, he said, because local Jerusalem Orthodox rabbis, with the exception of Abergil, have vowed that there will never be a Reform congregation in Baka.

But why should this be, he asked rhetorically. "My taxes that I pay in Israel go to meet the religious needs of all citizens of the State of Israel, with the exception of the non-Orthodox groups," Weiman-Kelman said. "In other words, if a group of Moslems want a new mosque, they go to the ministry of religion and they get money for a mosque. If an Orthodox rabbi wants to start a shul, he goes to the ministry of religion and he gets money to start a shul. If a group of Reform Jews get together — olim — they get nothing."

A test case the Reform movement has before the Israeli Supreme Court, Weiman-Kelman said, is that of the right of a Reform rabbi to perform authorized marriages in Israel. This is the longest case before the court, he said, five years since it was first presented.

Will fidgeting become the latest exercise craze?

By
ELLEN GOODMAN

BOSTON —

Have you tried jogging only to learn failing? Have you started aerobics and ended up in orthopedics? Do you own running shoes, tennis shoes, racquetball shoes and wear only slippers? Did you begin lifting weights only to return to lifting forks?

Now at last there is a sport for the sportsorexic, an activity that everyone can do, a magic way to lose weight without pulling your hamstrings or getting your hair wet. It's called Fidgeting.

You remember fidgeting. It's what your poor misguided grammar-school teacher told you to stop doing. Indeed it may be those teachers who are to blame for enlarging American hips in the attempt to enlarge American minds.

But in today's leaner, meaner America, a new crop of scientists has inadvertently begun a revival of this much maligned habit. A National Institutes of Health research team has discovered that the subspecies of Americans who squirm, shake their legs, and tap their fingers actually wiggle away hundreds of calories every day. Hosanna!

In the study they designed, 177 volunteers spent 24 hours each in a room having their "spontaneous physical activity" measured. Their movement was limited to "(a) strolling around within the chamber and (b) movements of the limbs with little displacement of the body's centre of gravity." In other words, fidgeting.

Some of the people burned up a mere 100 calories. But others burned up 800 in the persistence of their assorted nervous habits, without even donning a sweatsuit. What we're talking about here is a real scientific breakthrough! So what if an athlete can burn 360 calories an hour bicycling, 480 calories an hour skiing. Fidgeting is a sport you can do any time and any place: during an office meeting, on a blind date, trapped on the subway.

The researchers say that the level of "spontaneous physical activity" in any individual is inherited. There may be a fidgety gene. Indeed, the study was done to help explain why some people can naturally eat more and weigh less than others.

But anatomy has never yet stopped an American from the pursuit of a lean destiny. Anything can be learned for the sake of bodily self-improvement, even an overhead serve and a taste for bean curd. If only those people who were genetically fit took aerobics, where would the tights industry be today?

If fidgeting burns calories, then Americans will learn how to fidget. We may even open a new chapter in the history of the diet industry of the United States.

Welcome to the world of The Fidget Diet. By February, *Woman's Day* will feature a cover story: 25 Ways to Fidget to a New You! Glamour will follow that up with a real-life story, accompanied by before and after photos, of one editor who fidgeted 15 pounds in five weeks.

In the spring we will see a best-selling diet book entitled *Fat or Fidget*. The book will set up a goal of three hours of seat-squirming a day.

Meanwhile, the health clubs who found their clientele drifting away to this solitary squirm will organize group lessons to take place in drained swimming pools and converted racquetball courts. In Beginning Fidgeting, people will learn to twist their hair, wiggle in their chair and jiggle their feet. In Intermediate, they will do all of the above at the same time, not to mention the crunch: 200 repetitions of crossing and uncrossing legs. There will be a special class offered, "Fidgeting the Amniotic Fluid," for pregnant women who want to be able to give their children the proper prenatal environment.

Needless to say, the most committed will demand a wardrobe to go with their activity. Color-coordinated hair shirts and Harris tweed underpants will be a useful aid to constant motion. They will be worn even at home to accompany the best-selling videotape of Jane Fonda urging, "squirm, squirm, squirm."

But all this will be of little avail until we take our new-found knowledge of weight-control-through-motion and reach children in their bodily formative years. Are there pre-schoolers in your house who sit quietly through the dinner hour? Do your children spend long hours in the car looking peacefully out the window? Don't wait another minute. For the sake of their future waistlines, look these creatures in the eye sternly and utter the cry of the times: "Start fidgeting!"

(Copyright Washington Post Writers Group)

Yeshivas tighten security

NEW YORK (JTA) —

The murder of 16-year-old yeshiva student Chaim Weiss in his dormitory room at the Torah High School of Long Beach on Nov. 1 remains unsolved. But Jewish schools in the region are installing alarms

and new locks and otherwise improving security.

The Board of Jewish Education of Greater New York, working with police departments in the metropolitan area, has arranged free security evaluation programs for the nearly 600

yeshivas and school programs under its aegis. Police officers are inspecting school buildings and facilities to detect weak security points.

Nassau County police meanwhile continue to investigate the crime

Nursing Homes Act promises reforms

By
JEFF ROSEN

TORONTO —

Senior citizens living in nursing homes in Ontario will be entitled to certain fundamental rights which will be enshrined in law, under amendments to the Nursing Homes Act recently introduced by Ontario health minister Murray Elston.

"The fundamental principle upon which this legislation is based is that a nursing home is, first and foremost, the home of its residents," Elston said in the legislature in introducing the amendments which cover five areas of the Act. "Nursing home residents should have not only the best possible care, but also the best quality of care."

If passed by Premier David Peterson's minority Liberal government, the statement of rights and obligations of residents will be posted in each nursing home and each resident will be given a copy. As well, all homes will be required to operate in accordance with these rights. The statement of rights includes the following:

- Each resident shall be treated with dignity, courtesy and respect.
- Each resident shall be given care in accordance with his or her needs.
- Each resident shall have the right to consent to or to refuse to receive medical treatment.
- Each resident shall have the opportunity to participate in decisions and to obtain independent medical advice.
- Each resident shall have the opportunity to communicate in confidence with others.
- Each resident shall have the opportunity to pursue his or her interests.
- Each resident shall have the right to be informed of laws, rules and policies affecting the home and to express opinions without fear of reprisal.
- Each resident shall respect the rights of others in the home.

The government's proposed bill of rights mirrors that of Extencicare Health Services' Commitment to Residents which guarantees 23 specific rights — from the right to be treated fairly and courteously, to freedom from unnecessary use of restraints. It includes freedom to choose a personal physician and the right to be fully informed about his or her own care program, about financial affairs or the home's regulations.

Extencicare's bill of rights is displayed in every one of its nursing homes.

Sam Ruth, former chairman of the nursing homes compliance board of Ontario and past chief executive officer of Baycrest Centre for the Aged, said that while the amendments are a good start, many nursing homes already have their own residents' bill of rights. He said the Jewish Home for the Aged has the most comprehensive bill of rights for residents.



Murray Elston

The government's amendments to the Nursing Homes Act also provides for the establishment of residents' council advisory committees to review the operation, financial statements, spending practices and inspection reports of their nursing homes.

This, Elston said, will give residents a stronger voice in the day-to-day management of their homes. The councils will be set up in every nursing home whenever at least three residents or their representatives request one.

It will be made up of between three and 10 members with up to seven members being selected by the residents' council and up to three members appointed by the minister of health from the local community.

Heading the committee will be an advisor appointed by the minister of health with the consent of the advisory committee. The advisor will have the power to enter a nursing home at any time to meet with a resident or a member of the residents' council and will be able to review the home's records when instructed by the committee to make an investigation.

Ruth said the councils will only work if the people who run nursing homes believe in them.

To further enhance the role of councils as a voice for residents, Elston announced that \$50,000 would be provided to the Ontario Association of Residents' Council.

In announcing other amendments to the Nursing Homes Act, Elston said the legislation will give the government greater control over licensing and ownership of nursing homes and will require owners to post annual financial statements showing the expenditures for services and supplies at each home.

The amendments will allow the health minister to provide additional funding to a nursing home for additional services where needed.

They are also designed to protect anyone reporting incidents of improper care, unlawful conduct or neglect from reprisal.

Elston said his ministry is now working with the Ontario Provincial Police to set up a means of responding to criminal incidents in nursing homes. He said that in cases that do not involve criminal conduct, other options are available, such as prosecution under the act or revocation of a licence.

The ministry's authority to regulate ownership changes will also be expanded and strengthened, Elston said. Corporations will be required to notify the minister of health about any changes in controlling interests which affect the licence.

"In approving or refusing a licence, the ministry will consider the past conduct of those with controlling interest," Elston said. "Their honesty, integrity and competence to operate a home will be assessed."

He added that the minister's right to issue or refuse a nursing home licence based on public interest will also be expanded to take into account criteria such as concentration of ownership and the balance between profit and non-profit ownership.

The liability of a nursing home owner for violations of the act is also clarified. Penalties for non-compliance will be increased under the legislation from \$2,000 for a first offence and subsequent offences to maximums of \$5,000 for a first offence and \$10,000 for subsequent offences.



Anne Gross, immediate past chairman of the Canada-Israel Committee, is shown at a recent tribute to her with (from left) MP Roland de Corneille, MP Lloyd Axworthy, former CIC chairman Harold Buchwald and MP Robert Kaplan.

Tribute paid to Anne Gross

Former CIC head honored

OTTAWA —

Anne Gross, immediate past chairman of the Canada-Israel Committee, was honored at the CIC's recent annual policy conference here.

Leading figures of the Canadian Jewish community paid tribute to Gross for her many years of service in various positions with the CIC, which

is the community's voice on Canada-Israel relations.

Speakers included Senator Nathan Nurgitz, MP Sheila Finestone, Eliashiv Ben-Horin, Israel's ambassador to Canada, Sidney Spivak and Aaron Pollack, current and former CIC chairmen respectively, former national executive directors Myer Bick and Mark Resnick, and Shira

Herzog Bessin, the present national executive director.

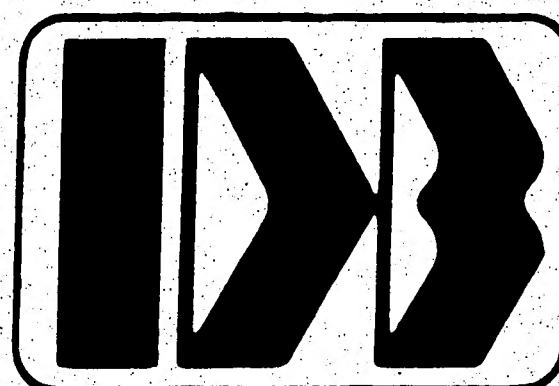
"During my term of office we were always encouraged by government to express our views and communicate with them, even if we did not always agree," Gross said.

"The accessibility of our government to us is a hallmark of our Canadian

system of democracy," she added.

Gross, a former Montrealer now living in Toronto, also said she was proud that over the years the CIC has become a centre of research and information on the Middle East.

"We are heartened as we watch the growth of interest in and support of our work across the country," she said.



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World-National

Living Halacha

By
RABBI MOSES J. BURAK

QUESTION: What is Chanukah all about?

In Tractate Shabbas, 21B, that's the way the question is posed, and the traditional answers are given.

Perhaps it's advisable to give a synopsis from historical sources. Antiochus attempted to assimilate the Jewish people in Israel. He passed a series of laws whose sole aim was to destroy the Jewish way of life. Fearful punishments were handed out to those who refused to give up their Judaism.



Rabbi Burak

In his introduction to The Second Book of Maccabees, the apocryphal book on Chanukah, Dr. Solomon Zeitlin gives us this summary of those laws: "Anyone now found observing Jewish laws was executed; women and children were sold into slavery; anyone who kept the Sabbath day was put to death. Similarly, circumcision was prohibited; and whenever a child was found circumcised, both he and his mother were put to death."

Here is the language about this last crime, and its punishment as given in The Second Book of Maccabees, Chapter 6:11: "Two women were brought up on the charge of having circumcised their children. They publicly paraded them around the city with their babies clinging to their breasts, then hurled them headlong from the wall."

A little further in the same record of those grim and bitter days, we read that a certain "Eleazar, one of the foremost scribes, a man well advanced in years and of most noble countenance, was compelled to open his mouth in an attempt to force him to eat swine's flesh. He welcomed death with glory rather than life with pollution, and of his own free will went to the rack."

Did our people break? Did they surrender their faith? Dr. Zeitlin, in his summary tells us that "... despite Menelaus and the Jewish renegades, most of the Jews remained loyal to Judaism." That's how it was in those days. Has Judaism fared this well in our times? Can we say that most of the Jews have remained loyal to Judaism?

In the last century or so, we haven't done all that well. Here is a report of a resolution taken by a Jewish congregation in Chicago where it was resolved: "That the Abrahamic rite is not an essential condition, the compliance with which must precede or follow admittance to membership in Sinai congregation." The words are fancy, but they are a light powder covering a case of leprosy.

What about Yom Kippur? Would anybody dare to tamper with that holy day? Yes. The Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Jan. 4, 1942, carried a report about the "rabbi who would abolish Yom Kippur." He appealed for the abolition of this Holy Day on the ground that "it makes for hypocrisy and fails to touch the consciences of men. It is one of the last remnants of our outworn institutions in the Jewish Faith. It is outworn and valueless and weighted with gloominess."

Nebich, nebich, that little man had such little knowledge of Jewish life. That Hellenist did not know that in a proper Jewish home little children beg for the privilege of fasting all day on Yom Kippur. The only way the parents can stop them from fasting all day is by telling them that a child of tender years is not permitted to fast the whole of Yom Kippur, according to the Talmud and Codes.

You will try to tell me that all is well today. You will tell me that last Shabbas you went to a large synagogue, and three bar mitzvah boys sang the maftir. And there was a chazzan, too. And a great crowd worshipped there. The answer to that is, that years ago in Toronto, one rabbi served three synagogues, because he couldn't make a living out of one alone.

Years ago, a synagogue was full without any bar mitzvah. Today, we must send out hundreds of invitations for three bar mitzvahs.

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France wants convicted killer

Justice minister quits over Nakash

JERUSALEM (JTA) —

Avraham Sharir announced his resignation as justice minister last week with a warning to Premier Yitzhak Shamir that the country's legal system is in serious disarray and a complaint that he has been forced, unfairly, to bear the full burden of criticism in the case of William Nakash.

Sharir said his resignation was prompted mainly by the reaction to his refusal to extradite Nakash to France, where he was sentenced in absentia to life imprisonment for the 1983 murder of an Arab in the city of Besancon. According to Sharir, he was bound to that decision by a promise made to Nakash's supporters by his predecessor, former Justice Minister Yitzhak Modai, and other senior ministers.

Extradition of the Algerian-born self-proclaimed baal tshuva was opposed by Orthodox and rightwing nationalist groups who formed a committee to pressure the authorities. Sharir was castigated in legal circles and an appeal is now pending before the Supreme Court to overrule his decision.

Sharir, a Likud Liberal who is also minister of tourism in the Labor-Likud unity coalition government, accepted the justice portfolio temporarily when Modai resigned last August. He told Shamir that poor state of the judiciary required a permanent appointee, especially in face of rising crime. He said the legal system is deteriorating and has reached its nadir.

EDWIN EYTAN, a Jewish Telegraphic Agency reporter, visited Besancon to find out more about Nakash, known to his friends as Vivi.

The court minutes of the trial of a 24-year-old Algerian, Hassen Hamoudi, one of Nakash's accomplices in the murder of Hakkar, provides some answers. In May 1984, Hamoudi was sentenced to 14 years' imprisonment.

The second accomplice, Charlie Mimi, a 23-year-old youth of mixed race, was arrested in Miami, Fla., on April 15, 1985, and will go on trial here Jan. 16.

The charge sheets against the three suspects, interviews and on-and-off-the-record conversations with police officials, prosecuting attorneys, local reporters and some of the city's Jews yielded more information.

The police inspector who was in charge of the case, a veteran of the Paris serious crimes squad, confessed to be "deeply surprised" by the agitation and political turmoil over the Nakash case.

"Without a shadow of a doubt," he told this reporter, the murder was "a straightforward settling of accounts which got out of hand. Vivi, a small-time hoodlum who tried to play the tough guy, got carried away.... There was no racket, no gang warfare. Politics? Antisemitism? You must be out of your mind to imagine something like this. Atoush (the victim's nickname) would probably not have found Israel on a map and cared as much about politics as about last winter's snow."

Jacques Lorach, president of the Besancon branch of LICRA, the International League Against Anti-Semitism, said he was "revolted" by insinuations that Besancon might be a hotbed of anti-semites.

Lorach, a 72-year-old lawyer, served as deputy mayor for 25 years. "Never in all my life, and certainly not in my political career, have I heard or been told about any anti-semitic remark," he said. "Not even my bitterest political opponents, including the extreme right, have ever tried to use this weapon (anti-semitism) against me."

Lorach's wife, a survivor of Bergen-Belsen who lost most of her family at Auschwitz, founded a local museum in honor of French Jewish deportees in the Citadel, which overlooks the city. It is one of the largest and most impressive memorials to the Holocaust outside the Yad Vashem in Jerusalem.

It was financed exclu-

sively by the city and the regional authorities. The museum covers four floors and has a staff of more than 20. At its entrance, carved in rock, stands a figure representing the Jewish deportees, a gift of the region's best known sculptor, Gerard Oudinot.

"There might be anti-semites in Besancon — we cannot read into peoples' hearts," Lorach said. "All I know is that after the Rue Copernic Synagogue bombing (in Paris in 1980) over 3,000 people marched in protest through this city's streets."

There are 150 Jewish families and fewer than 500 Jews in Besancon.

About a third of them came here from North Africa in the 1950s and early 1960s. They have had integration problems. Besancon is a cold city, climatically and psychologically. But those who spoke to this reporter said they encountered no anti-semitism.

Police stressed that Nakash would not have asked an Algerian Arab, Hamoudi, and Mimi, a mulatto, to help if his reasons for attacking Hakkar were political.

The three obtained guns in Paris. According to Hamoudi, they planned to use them in a holdup and to give Hakkar no more than a thorough beating. Police tend to believe that version. After tracking down Hakkar on the night of Feb. 24, they chased him. For some reason they panicked and opened fire. When police reached the scene of the shooting, Hakkar was dead with 14 bullets in his body.

The murder was quickly solved, but by then Nakash had fled to Israel and Mimi to Florida. They got away because of a jurisdictional mixup at police headquarters between the city and regional police. Hamoudi was arrested a few days later in the south of France.

Janine Simonin, a non-Jewish lawyer who has close ties to the Jewish community here, said she was "horrified" by what

she read and heard about the defence put up for Nakash in Israel. As for anti-semitism in Besancon, she recalled that when the Israeli ambassador, Ovadia Soffer, visited the city last year "he was welcomed like a king."

The museum of the French Jewish deportees was decorated with huge Israeli flags. "Can anyone doubt our city's feelings toward Israel?" she asked.

Israeli, Arabs study water problems

By
JOSEPH POLAKOFF

WASHINGTON —

Meir Ben-Meir, the director-general of Israel's ministry of agriculture, recently attended a 2-day meeting in Washington with senior officials of three Arab countries and Turkey to discuss potential water shortages in their region and pollution in the Nile, Jordan and Tigris and Euphrates rivers.

The Israel Embassy here disclosed Ben-Meir's presence at the session at Georgetown University sponsored by its Centre for Strategic and International Studies. Joyce Starr, director of the centre's Near East Studies Department, said senior officials of Iraq, Egypt and Jordan also attended but declined to identify them because this might

be hazardous to them.

"The dialogue was so congenial," Starr said, that it had surprised her. The meeting, she said, marked the first occasion representatives of the five countries joined to study issues of common concern.

Starr said Ethiopia indicated interest in the meeting but did not send a representative for financial reasons. Syria refused to join in view of Israel's participation. Lebanon and the Sudan did not respond to invitations.

Yossi Gal, the Israel embassy spokesman, noted that it was an "important" meeting since water issues are a central problem in the Middle East. He noted it was under the "auspices of an academic organization" and not a peace parley or under United Nations auspices.



Do you know them?

CONNAISSEZ-VOUS L'UNE DE CES PERSONNES?

Si vous savez où l'une ou plusieurs des personnes mentionnées ci-dessous, résident actuellement, veuillez en aviser les Services canadiens d'assistance aux immigrants juifs, 5151, chemin de la Côte Ste-Catherine, Montréal, Québec H3W 1M6, Téléphone: 342-9351.

DO YOU KNOW ANY OF THESE PEOPLE?

If you know where any of the persons listed below are presently residing, please inform the Jewish Immigrant Aid Services, 5151 Cote St. Catherine Rd., Montreal, P.Q. H3W 1M6, Tel: 342-9351.

1. AVRAHAM, Avram - resided for some time at 2400 Van Horne Ave., Apt. 414, Montreal.
2. BERGER, Martha - born in Austria. Resided in Norway or Sweden. Immigrated to Canada.
3. FARBER, Chaskel - son of Abe Farber. Resident of Toronto.
4. FREEMAN, Philip, Victor - merchant tailor, son of Joseph. Last known address, 113 St. Clare Ave., Toronto.
5. GEWERC, Sonia - born in 1945 in Lodz, Poland; daughter of Michal & Ryta. Emigrated with mother to Israel in 1950 and later to Canada.
6. HOROWITZ, Bella - born in Poland, maiden name Shulman. Arrived in Canada in 1918 and resided in Montreal. Mother of Mozes Horowitz.
7. Members of the Frank & Isadore KOZLOVSKY family, who had moved to Montreal from New York in the early 1900's, and lived in the Papineau area.
8. Relatives of Harry LEHRER and wife, née Rushton - had daughter Beatrice. Last known address 4642 Plamondon, Apt. 5, Montreal.
9. LYONS, Jack - brother of Esther. Esther's husband was belt manufacturer. The family resided in Montreal. Jack was the father of 2 boys.
10. PROKOPYEV, Alexander - born in Mankovskoye, USSR, immigrated to Canada with wife, Viktorya in 1979. Last known address, Edmonton, Alberta.
11. ROTENBERG (ROTHENBERG), Toby - born in Toronto, niece of Maier Sznall.
12. SHAW - descendants of Nisha Krevosha or Krevoshayov of Beresin Byelorussia. It is known that his daughter immigrated to Montreal. Name was later changed to Shaw. Also members of the Rudov family, who immigrated from Russia to Western Canada in 1880.
13. SCHAINHOLTZ (SHAINHOLTZ), Isaac - born in Lodz, Poland in 1915. Lived with Verlinger family in Munich, Germany. Mother's name was Ester Stern. Sought by cousin, Jaime Zielonka.
14. STEMBEK, Luba - née Levinson - born in Rowno, Poland. Known to have lived in Toronto, 1930. Sister of Shama and Nunya.
15. WOLINSKY (VELENSKY), Harry - originally known as VLOCHBI-ANSKY, from Lechevich, Baranovich Region, White Russia. Owned butcher shops in Ottawa and Montreal.
16. ZOCHLINSKY, Shlomo, Hersz Boruch, Aba - born in Mlawa, Poland. Sons of Haskel & Herived. Sought by brother Leon.

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World-National

Soviet cancer patient Bravve arrives in NY

NEW YORK (JTA) — Former Refusenik Rimma Bravve arrived in New York last week after what she called "waiting for this day to come for eight years."

Speaking in fluent

English, the 32-year-old woman, who is suffering from advanced ovarian cancer, wiped back tears as she embraced her mother, Khanna Anbinder, whom she had not seen in six years.

"This is the happiest day of my life," said Bravve at a press conference at JFK Airport. This sentiment was echoed by her petite mother, a retired pediatrician who has been

living in Rochester, NY, since 1980.

Bravve and her husband, Vladimir, who emigrated with her, were met by a large retinue of supporters, including her sister, Larisa Shapiro, a computer scien-

tist living in Rochester who accompanied her sister from Vienna; Larisa's husband, Boris; Leon Charny, a Soviet emigre who has been publicizing Bravve's plight as well as that of his brother in Moscow; Ben-

jamin Charny, another cancer patient Refusenik; Gerald Batist, a Montreal oncologist who has worked tirelessly since last spring for Bravve's release and that of other cancer patients; and Senators

Alfonse D'Amato (R. NY) and Frank Lautenberg (D. NJ), both instrumental in pushing for their release.

Also in attendance were members of the Rochester Jewish Federation, who wore placards with photographs of other cancer patient Refuseniks.

The Bravves received their visas Dec. 16 following a month-long period of publicity after the Soviet ambassador to the Helsinki Accord follow-up talks in Vienna announced their visas and following which the Bravves repeatedly sought to obtain these visas, which were delayed.

The attractive young couple flew to Vienna accompanied on their flight from Moscow by Sen. Gary Hart (D. Colo.) who, while visiting the Soviet Union, met with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

The Bravves were accompanied by D'Amato on their return flight from Vienna. The New York senator had been in constant contact with their family, as well as with Leon Charny and Batist about the other cancer patients.

D'Amato eased the Bravves' immigration process and customs clearance with the state department in Vienna. He was there as chairman of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, which did preparatory work for the Helsinki talks.

In a related development, cancer patient Inna Neiman, 53, has been told that she can leave for treatment of a tumor on her neck. However, her husband, Naum, 75, who is also reported ailing, will not be allowed to accompany his wife. Hart spoke to Gorbachev specifically about Neiman's case during his Moscow talks with the Soviet leader.

Israel's aid focuses on human resources

TORONTO —

A new publication from the Canada-Israel Committee details Israel's 30-year effort to help developing and newly emerging countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean meet the challenges of the modern world.

Dialogue for Development: Israel's Foreign Assistance Programme, written by CIC research director David Weinberg, says that the primary focus of Jerusalem's foreign aid has always been the development of human resources and professional skills through training.

Some 55,000 trainees from 112 countries have studied Israel's approach to development in the fields of agriculture and environmental management; rural development and regional planning; labor and cooperative studies; community and educational development, and health care.

As Dialogue for Development makes clear, Israel's efforts have been motivated by a sense of social justice, and by opportunities emerging from fur-

thering diplomatic contacts with the world community.

Projects described in the book range from the provision of ophthalmological care to the West African nation of Liberia and the educating of African doctors, to training trade unionists and community activists from South Africa, to implementing extensive rural agricultural development programs in Asia and Latin America.

Shock of break in ties

The history of Israel's aid program is related including the shock of the break in relations by most African states due to Arab pressure in 1973. This was a huge disappointment to Israel and a blow to the

citizens of those countries.

Yitzhak Abt, director of the ministry of agriculture's Centre for International Agricultural Development Cooperation, recalls his own disappointment: "The biggest losers were the African people, because only now, in the last few years, are we returning to this kind of work on a bigger scale — but under different circumstances, far worse circumstances."

"Land has been degraded, people are suffering from famine, terms of trade have changed, production in Africa is not meeting population growth requirements."

Despite the break in relations, a smaller informal network of economic and developmental ties continued to link Israel to developing nations. In many cases, projects were transferred from the public to the private sector.

Israel has been returning to Africa, Asia and other parts of the developing world. Several African states have formally restored their relations with Israel and once again, the

future of Israel-Third World ties looks bright.

Eight African states now have full diplomatic relations with Israel and six additional countries have other forms of diplomatic representation. Six others maintain close economic and developmental ties with Jerusalem, even in the absence of formal relations.

"I can't tell you what countries will be next (to restore diplomatic ties with Israel)," Came-

Vanunu pleads not guilty as trial opens in Jerusalem

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Mordechai Vanunu, the former technician at the Dimona nuclear facility, pleaded not guilty to charges of treason, grave espionage and passing information without authorization, as his trial opened officially in Jerusalem District Court Sunday.

"He denied the facts in the charge sheet," Vanunu's attorney, Aharon Zichroni, told reporters after a 90-minute closed session. The trial will resume in six weeks. If convicted, Vanunu could face life imprisonment.

The trial will be held in camera and only the sentence will be made public if the verdict is

guilty. The tightest security was maintained to seclude Vanunu from the media as he was driven to court at 7.30 a.m. The authorities took extreme measures to avoid a repetition of the incident of Dec. 21 when Vanunu was brought to court to be remanded in custody for the duration of the trial.

At the time he managed to flash a message to the media, printed on the palm of his hand, alleging that he was kidnapped in Rome on Sept. 30 by Israeli agents. This Sunday morning, the windows of the prison van were painted opaque white and a blanket was hung between the driver's compartment and the

rear of the van to prevent anyone from catching a glimpse of the prisoner.

A person, presumably Vanunu, was taken from the rear of the van with a sack over his head and his body concealed partially by an umbrella held by a guard.

Vanunu is accused of passing information to a British newspaper alleging that Israel has been building an arsenal of nuclear weapons for 20 years. An additional charge may be pressed against him for attempting to communicate with the press last week. Police are investigating the incident to determine whether there are grounds for an indictment.

Rights, disarmament discussed with Soviets

OTTAWA —

A 4-man Soviet delegation was in Ottawa recently for two days of in camera meetings with parliamentarians.

William Attewell, newly elected chairman of the all-party Canadian Parliamentary Group for Soviet Jewry, said the delegation met with each

party's caucus.

As well, the Soviets met with an all-party committee of the Commons and Senate which is co-chaired by Bill Winegard, chairman of the standing committee on external affairs and international trade, and George C. van Roggen, chairman of the Senate standing committee on foreign affairs.

Although the specifics of all meetings must be confidential, Attewell said in an interview that the topics "tended to be solely on human rights and peace — really disarmament — issues."

"Most of the 12 Canadians at the all-party committee meeting participated in the discussion," he said. "There were frank and blunt remarks on the human rights situation in Russia concerning Refuseniks and Prisoners of Conscience."

Attewell said the purpose of the visit, on the heels of a similar trip to the United States, was primarily to discuss with Canadian parliamentarians "the situation emerging after the Reykjavik summit and other international issues of mutual concern."

The Soviet delegation was led by Victor Afanasiev, member of the Commission of Foreign Affairs of the Council of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet and chief editor of Pravda.

The Name Game

There's a story in almost every Jewish surname and Toronto lawyer FRED M. CATZMAN has been researching their origins over the past few years.

In a series of articles Mr. Catzman reports on his research. If you have any information relating to the origin and meaning of your surname, please pass it along to Fred M. Catzman, c/o The Canadian Jewish News, 562 Eglinton Ave. E., Toronto M4P 1P1.

KREVER — DUBIN (revisited)

Mr. Justice Horace Krever gently takes issue with my identification of his surname with the Ukrainian town of KRIVOY-ROG. I am persuaded by the unimpeachable testimony of his nonagenarian father that it derives from his birthplace KREVE, a small community in Lithuania. He corroborates his case with documentary evidence — his father's birth certificate and BORIS KRIVY'S confirmation that his antecedents too are Lithuanian.

My feeble defence is that I cannot find KREVE on the map, although I concede that it may have vanished with the emigration of its illustrious citizen.

Simultaneously, I have been shot down by my good neighbor, HELENA SNIDMAN, who challenged my statement that the renowned Dubner Maggid is named after the Lithuanian town of DUBNO. Her husband is from the Ukrainian town of DUBNO, and claims the Maggid Jacob ben Wulf as a landsman.

That makes the score Lithuania — 1, Ukraine — 1, and Catzman — 00.

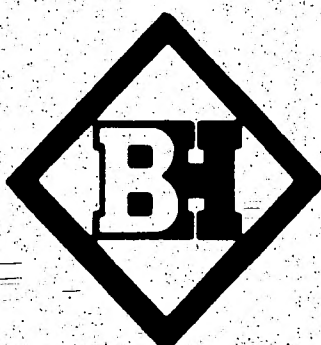
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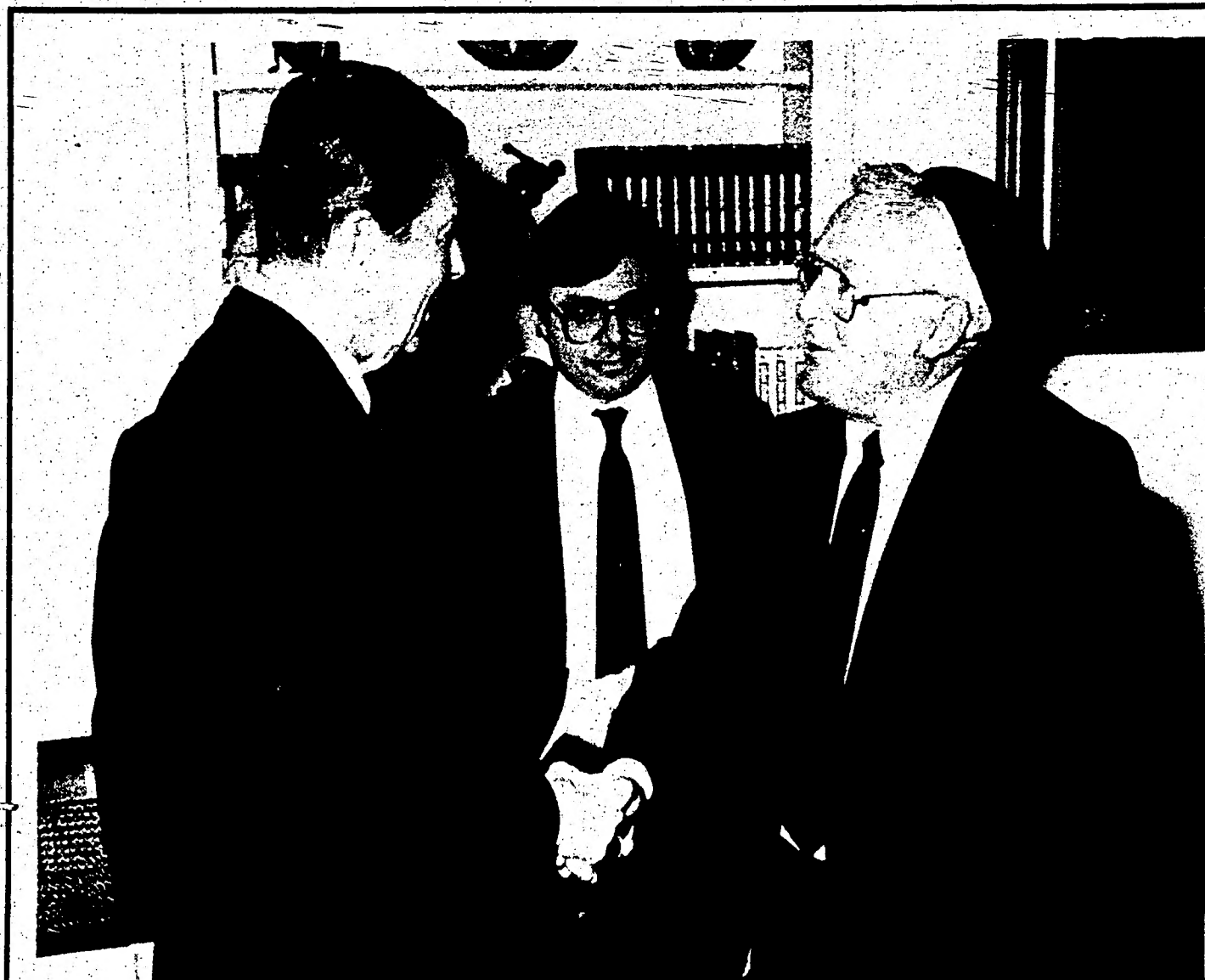
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World-National



YESHIVA HONOREES

Toronto philanthropist and business leader Joseph Kerzner (right) greets fellow Yeshiva University honoree, U.S. President Ronald Reagan, at YU's recent centenary dinner. Kerzner endowed a chair of accounting at YU's new business school. Reagan received a Doctor of Laws degree. [Norman Goldberg photo]

"Historic accomplishment"

Bonds sales pass \$8 billion

NEW YORK (JTA) —

Sales of State of Israel Bonds, which have helped in building Israel's infrastructure and other aspects of its economy since the inception of the Bond campaign in 1951, passed the \$8 billion figure in cash last week, it was announced by David Hermelin of Detroit, international campaign chairman of the Bond Organization.

Of the \$8 billion in Israel government securities sold to individuals and institutions during the past 35 years, an estimated \$4.5 billion has been repaid by the government of Israel to holders of Israel Bonds as they matured.

In his announcement, Hermelin declared: "We believe that our \$8 billion sales milestone is one of the most remarkable people-to-people achievements in the annals of efforts in support

for Israel. This historic accomplishment represents the highest and most tangible expression of the ties which unite Jewish communities abroad with the State of Israel."

He continued, "It also represents the confidence of the general community, which includes tens of thousands of banks, pension funds and employee benefit plans which invested in Israel Bonds."

Willard Butcher, chairman of the board of Chase Manhattan Bank, commended the Israel Bond Organization for achieving \$8 billion in worldwide sales since the start of the campaign in 1951, when Chase became the fiscal agent for State of Israel Bonds.

The Israel Bond campaign was launched by Israel's first Prime Minister, David Ben-Gurion, and a group of

American Jewish leaders at a time when the newly-established state was struggling for its survival. It later expanded into Canada and countries in Western Europe and Latin America.

Major economic advances made in the past with the help of Israel Bond funds have included harbor expansion; oil pipeline and

terminal construction; development of telecommunications systems; the national water carrier; as well as roads and highways.

Other projects helped by Bond proceeds included the establishment of development towns and science-based industries.

EEC pact to bring price reductions

JERUSALEM (JTA) —

The prices of a large selection of imports, mainly expensive durables, are due to fall by as much as 20% as Israel complies with tariff agreements it has with the European Economic Community (EEC), the finance ministry announced Sunday. The agreements are effective Jan. 1.

The ministry warned however that if the price drops trigger an unrestrained spending spree by the public, additional taxes and levies would be imposed on the purchases. According to the Treasury, the cumulative effect of the reduced prices of imports would be a 1% fall in the cost-of-living.

Israel has reciprocal agreements with the EEC calling for significant tariff

reductions on industrial products. They have been in effect for several years but the largest is due at the start of the new year. Israel will benefit mainly in the area of agricultural products which will be able to compete favorably on the European market, even with produce from EEC countries.

The biggest drop here will be in the price of family size cars which will fall by about 18%. Other consumer durables such as refrigerators and dishwashers will cost about 8% less. But these items will cost considerably more in Israel than in other countries because residual tariffs and sales taxes still amount to up to 100% of the purchase price in most cases.

Israel economy plan to be reexamined

By
DAVID LANDAU

JERUSALEM (JTA) —

The finance ministry's economic plan (CJN Dec. 18) is slated for reexamination after the cabinet last week failed to reach agreement on virtually all of its features.

Two days of exhausting, often rancorous debate ended with a decision to set up two ad hoc ministerial committees to study the plan in consultation with its most vociferous critics.

One committee, consisting of Finance Minister Moshe Nissim and Vice-Premier Shimon Peres, will consider the proposed tax reforms and restructuring of the capital market with representatives of Histadrut and the Manufacturers Association.

The second committee, comprising Peres, Nissim, Premier Yitzhak Shamir and Minister of Economic Coordination Gad Yaacobi, will review the proposed budget cuts with the various ministries. Its decisions will carry the full weight of a cabinet decision.

Histadrut and the Manufacturers Association have been sharply critical of the plan, the former on grounds that it imposed the heaviest tax burdens on low and middle income groups. The labor federation was backed, among others, by Deputy Premier and Housing Minister David Levy, a Likud-Herut leader whose constituency is the low-income community.

The Manufacturers Association, representing employers and industrialists, contend that the plan does not give sufficient incentive to production and exports; a criticism echoed by Minister of Commerce and Industry Ariel Sharon, also Likud-Herut.

The individual ministries predictably oppose sharp cuts in their respective budgets. Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, a Laborite, has been the strongest opponent, arguing that the 180 million shekels Nissim would take from the already reduced defence budget could "ruin the army."

Shamir seems to be fence-straddling on the military budget. He told the Knesset's foreign affairs and security committee that there was "room here for some pruning." But in an interview, the Premier

maintained that Rabin and Chief of Staff Gen. Moshe Levy were "justified" in opposing wholesale cuts.

Shamir had predicted cabinet approval "within a few days." That did not transpire and political observers said that the failure to endorse the plan was a setback for the Prime Minister and Nissim. Shamir has argued that the only alternative to the Treasury's plan was a return to "the economics of inflation."

insisted the lower brackets would benefit too.

His plan has also come under fire for the elimination of price controls and cost-of-living adjustments and its controversial education tax. Nissim challenged opponents "to come up with alternative sources of cash" to bail out financially troubled kibbutzim, moshavim, Solel Boneh, electronics firms and the hotel industry, all in dire need of government support.

He said the government would have to pour more than 1 billion shekels into those sectors over a 2-year period. Solel Boneh, the Histadrut-owned construction company, confirmed that it needs 100 million shekels to help it recover from the ongoing slump in the construction industry at home and abroad.

Michael Bruno, governor of the Bank of Israel who is credited with being the architect of the economic program, pointed out that without reduced government expenditures, neither the tax reform nor the restructuring of the capital market could be implemented.

The plan, though referred to as "new," is actually the second phase of the economic recovery plan introduced 18 months ago by the Labor-Likud unity coalition government. The first phase focused on controlling the inflationary spiral, and was largely successful. The second phase is aimed at overhauling the entire economic structure and opening an era of economic growth.

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The Jewish Quiz

QUESTIONS:

- (1) What fast day commemorates the commencement of the siege of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar in 586 BCE?
- (2) Name the operation that airlifted almost all of the 50,000 Jews of Yemen to Israel.
- (3) Who was elected to the House of Commons nine consecutive times since 1962?

ANSWERS:

- (1) The Fast of the 10th of Tevet
- (2) Operation Magic Carpet
- (3) David Orlikow, of the New Democratic Party, in North Winnipeg.

These questions and answers came from the book *6400 Questions About Judaism and the Jewish People* by Edmond Y. Lipsitz, published recently by JESL Educational Products. Dr. Lipsitz would be pleased to receive your comments, or to consider your own Jewish quiz questions for inclusion in future columns. Write to him, c/o The Canadian Jewish News.



Edmond Lipsitz

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extends their deepest sympathy to

Mr. and Mrs. Israel Nachshen and Family

on the tragic loss of a devoted son and father

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President

Michael E. Meyer
National Executive Director

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DIARY ...of a People

By
DAVID BIRKAN

Mounting friction between Jews led to the convening of Hungary's General Jewish Congress, on Kislev 30 (Jan. 1, this year) 1868. It left the vital and effervescent community splintered, in pieces that glitter brightly to this day.

The tension between nationalism and religion marks the modern history of a community some 1,800 years old. The 18th century that saw the influx of large numbers of traditional Jews from Moravia and Polish Galicia also brought the first rays of Western enlightenment and the glimmer of civic equality.

Rabbi Efraim Ben Yaacov HaCohen's yeshiva and beit din made Buda as prominent on the Jewish map as Vilna or Prague. Rabbi Moshe The Chatam Sofer developed in Pressburg, central Europe's most prominent yeshiva. It and counterparts in Galanta, Eisenstadt, Papa, Huszt and Szatmar set the standards for Hungarian Orthodoxy. A string of rabbinic luminaries emerged, including: Sofer's son, Avraham Shmuel Binyamin, and grandson, Simcha Bunem; Moshe Shick and Yehuda Aszod in Szerdahely; Aaron Dovid Deutch in Balassagyarmat; and Shlomo Ganzfried, compiler of the ever popular Kitzur (condensed) Shulchan Aruch.

Chassidic movements spread through the northeast more or less unopposed. Because of its own relatively recent establishment, as well as philosophical affinities, Hungarian Orthodoxy spawned few misnagdim (religious opponents) of the type that fought chassidim tooth and nail in Eastern Europe. Chassidic centres soon developed in Satoraljauhely, Sighet, and Munkacs. The chassidim of Belz in east Galicia and Vishnitz also exerted their influence.

Vital role

At the same time, Jews played a vital role in Hungary's struggle for independence from Austria. Many fought in nationalist Louis Kossuth's 1848 revolution; when it was suppressed, thousands followed him into exile. When Hungary became an independent kingdom in the dual Austro-Hungarian empire in 1867, Jews were granted political equality.

These developments coincided with the secular culture, assimilation and Reform Judaism that swept over Hungary's large urban communities. Pioneer Reformer Aaron Chorin, a former Orthodox rabbi, fought for secular and vocational education and to institute the revolutionary tenets of Germany's Council of Reform Rabbis. He became infamous among Hungary's religious communities as HaAcher, an acronym of his names, which means the Other — the same name given to mishnaic sage Elisha ben Abuyah after his apostasy. Chorin and Nagykanizsa's Rabbi Leopold Loew, a descendant of Prague's Rabbi Yehuda Ben Bezael Loew (of Golem fame), pressed the government for recognition.

The Orthodox, after years of resistance, capitulated to the government's demand. The Neologists, as the Hungarian Reformers called themselves, packed the congress with 126 delegates to the traditionalists' 94. Tempers flared and Orthodox delegates left the debate, as the Neologue program of a new unified community religious and educational — as well as government liaison — system was hammered out, the Israelite Chancery.

The Orthodox turned to Hungary's parliament with their strenuous objections, and were eventually allowed to operate independently, or through a new Orthodox Israelite Chancery.

For the next 50 years, Jews from all camps made brilliant contributions in secular, economic, professional, as well as religious fields. Hungary's leading poets, novelists, playwrights, artists and musicians — among them Goldmark, Joachim, Molnar, Foldes, Lazslo, Kaufmann, and Kormendi — were Jews. Ferenc Halmi was mayor of Budapest in 1913. Gen. Marton Zoeld was a hero of World War I. Theodor Herzl was born in Budapest as was his successor Max Nordau and America's White House rabbi Stephen Wise.

These varied legacies survived the anti-semitism unleashed by the shortlived Communist rule of renegade Jew Bela Kuhn, the Holocaust, and Soviet repression. They were exported around the Jewish world. In Canada, the commercial and religious involvements of Toronto's Reichmanns are a prominent example, as is the newly arrived rabbi of their synagogue — Yosef Sofer, of Mea Shearim, a direct descendant of the Pressburg sage.

By
SHELDON KIRSHNER

TORONTO —

Otto Lowy was born in Prague and left Czechoslovakia on the eve of World War II, never to see his parents again.

Lowy, the genial host of *The Transcontinental*, that delightful Sunday evening CBC radio show, returned last summer to reacquaint himself with his ancestral roots.

This was not the first time Lowy had gone back to Prague. He did so shortly after the war, hoping to find his parents. He searched in vain for them. They had perished in the Holocaust, an event that devastated Czech Jewry.

In 1985, after he saw *The Precious Legacy* in Montreal, all his boyhood memories of Prague surfaced poignantly and painfully once again. *The Precious Legacy*, which toured North America in 1985, was an exhibit of the artifacts of Czech Jewry that the Nazis intended to display in a museum on an "extinct culture."

Immensely moved by the display, Lowy went back to his birthplace, to the former ghetto of Prague where generations of Jews lived and died.

Lowy's deeply-felt impressions of Prague will be broadcast on Wednesday, Jan. 7 at 9.30 p.m. on the CBC TV network. Entitled *Journey To Prague*, it is directed by David Cherniack and produced by Louise Lore with consummate care for Man Alive.

Quite simply, it is superb television. For this reviewer, *Journey To Prague* takes its place as one of the most moving documentaries ever broadcast on Canadian TV.

Clearly, Otto Lowy has every reason to shepherd.

The 30-minute film, which skillfully cuts between scenes of the

Lament for Jews of Czechoslovakia

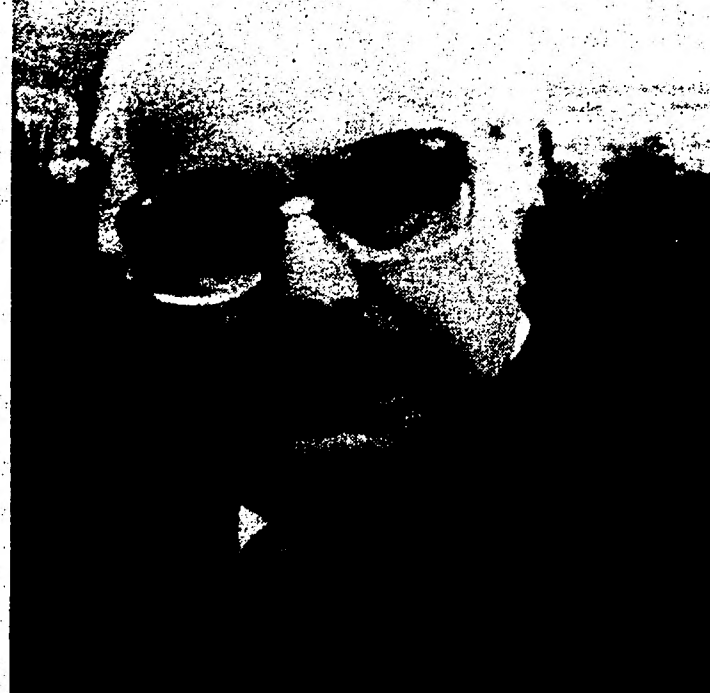
Lowy journey is superb television

Precious Legacy and Prague, depicts the Czech capital as an architectural stunning city of wondrous views. Lowy is impressed by the ornate palaces, the stately spires, the red roofs, the hidden Baroque gardens. No wonder Prague was once known as the Paris of the East.

But as much as he is attracted to Prague, Lowy knows he is a stranger there now, a walking, breathing "artifact" of a rich legacy all but destroyed by Hitler. Like the American novelist Thomas Wolfe, Lowy can't go home again, at least not in the spiritual sense of that phrase. Prague, no longer "home," is "back in the distant past."

As he walks through this beautiful city, seeking out its nooks and crannies against the backdrop of elegiac Czech music, he recalls his childhood with touching poetic clarity.

Lowy, whose lilting Mittel Europa voice is both sonorous and sad, remembers the courtyard where he kicked a leather ball high into the air; the skating rink near the river, under an arch, where he kissed a girl for the first time; the staircase in his



Otto Lowy

old home, "worn down by 100 years of his ancestors."

And he remembers the gas lamps at night, throwing up crooked shadows in Gothic Prague.

He revisits the Old-New Synagogue, where his father would take him on rare occasions, and he stops in at the Jerusalem St. temple, where he had his bar mitzvah.

This magnificent building, which always smelled of "things being cooked," is something of

a metaphor for the decrepit state of present-day Czech Jewry. Its door is padlocked, he says, and a minyan cannot even be raised so that services can be conducted.

Lowy, of course, visits what is probably the most common Jewish site in Prague — the cemetery with its crowded headstones reaching skywards crookedly. And he takes us to the famous outdoor clock, with its gold Hebrew letters, that runs backwards.

The most wrenching moments occur as Lowy thinks back to that spring day nearly 50 years ago when he bid goodbye to his mother at Prague's railway station. As he boarded the train, his mother reminded him to see a dentist regularly, and promised they would soon be reunited in Britain. It was not to be. "And that was the last time I saw her," he muses.

Later in life, Lowy met a woman who knew his mother in Auschwitz. "She went right up the chimney," she told him.

The experience of revisiting Prague is, for Lowy, an ultimately shattering one. Feeling like an abandoned, misunderstood orphan, he laments the tragedy of his own life and that of his fellow Jews in Czechoslovakia.

In a figurative sense, no one is left to tend the graves, the very many Jewish graves, that dot the landscape of Czechoslovakia. And Prague, for all its ethereal beauty, is like an "enormous cemetery" for a survivor like Lowy.

In sombre, uplifting tones, Otto Lowy has distilled the essence that was Jewish Prague so very, very long ago.



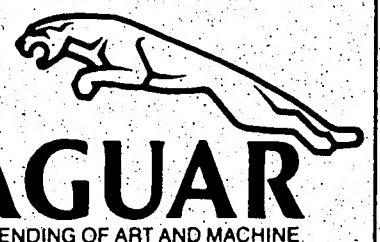
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Editorial

A racist attack

It is not often that this newspaper finds itself in agreement with an action taken by an Arab organization.

The recent decision taken by the Washington-based American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee to pressure Elektra Records is one with which we can agree.

The Arab committee urged Elektra to delete the lead song, *Killing an Arab*, from future editions of *Standing on a Beach*, an album produced by the British group The Cure.

As a result of the pressure exerted by the Anti-Discrimination Committee, Elektra Records has also agreed to stop promoting the single, which has been popular on college radio stations.

It is interesting to note that the song, first recorded in 1979, is based on a misperception of Albert Camus's famous novel, *The Stranger*, in which the protagonist kills an Arab on a North African beach.

Although the album has enjoyed popularity only since last May it has sold about 400,000 LPs and cassettes.

Faris Bouhafa, spokesman for the Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, points out that the title of the single *Killing an Arab* "opens the doors for Arab-bashing by disc jockeys . . . When you put out a song like this you invite disc jockeys to go on the air and say, 'Here's a song about killing A-rabs.'"

The album in question is condemnable on two grounds. First it caricatures Camus's great novel by suggesting a racial element where none existed in the mind of the writer.

Second, it constitutes a racist attack against Arab citizens on this continent and elsewhere who are decent law-abiding people. Singling them out for musical assault is completely unacceptable.

Whatever differences which this publication has with the Arab community here and abroad are based solely on political issues — which we fervently hope will be settled one day.

In the meantime we deplore racist attacks against the Arab people from the musical or any other sector.

Important lessons

As we reconstruct the interstices of the Holocaust it becomes increasingly apparent that there will have to be some basic revisions about the behavior of some European countries towards the Jews.

A case in point is the conclusion reached by a number of scholars and researchers at a conference held at Brooklyn College (New York Times, Dec. 14). The conference also saw the participation of the Italian ministry of foreign affairs.

Delegates to the symposium heard a number of papers pointing to the fact that many Italians harbored Jews or helped them escape abroad when Mussolini invoked his anti-Jewish statutes.

While the Italian record in this regard was not spotless, it is nonetheless true that fewer than 20% of Italy's 40,000 Jews were deported to the death camps, "a far smaller percentage than all but two or three countries."

Speaking for his country, Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti indicated that "when the threat of genocide became real, many Italians, perhaps the majority of Italians, became fully aware of the gravity of the situation and behaved in a generous and courageous manner."

Andreotti added that specific Italian institutions — the church, the diplomatic service and convents — helped save Jews by providing identity papers for the latter.

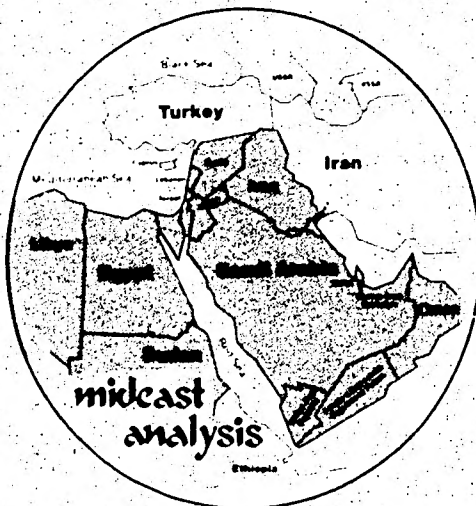
Participants in the Brooklyn College meeting echoed Andreotti's remarks by exploring the reasons why Italian Jews fared better than many of the European counterparts during the Holocaust.

The traditional Italian mistrust of governments, the longevity of the Jewish presence in Italy, the diminution of papal power, the integration of Jews in the civic life of Italy — these were but a few of the factors which explained the relative security which Jews enjoyed in Italy even under Mussolini's yoke.

The Brooklyn College conference has made its important findings available for public scrutiny. The lessons it imparts about the fortunes of Italian Jews during the Holocaust are both instructive and encouraging.

Jerusalem seeks Nicaragua ties

Contra \$\$: Did Israel know?



By
SHELDON KIRSHNER

With each passing day, the Iran arms scandal grows murkier and murkier as startling revelations and allegations steadily accumulate. And one of the murkiest unresolved questions turns on Israel's alleged role in helping the contras.

The scandal, which has grievously damaged Ronald Reagan's presidency, unfolded in two stages. First there were reports, later substantiated, that American military equipment and spare parts had been sold to Iran via Israel. Then there was the disclosure by U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese that profits from the sales, estimated to range from \$10 million to \$30 million, had been deposited in Swiss bank accounts for use by American-backed Nicaraguan rebels.

The outrage in Washington has been palpable.

Congressmen who had opposed the shipment of U.S. weaponry to a country officially classified by the White House as a nation practicing international state terrorism were doubly outraged to discover that the diversion of funds to the contras had occurred during a congressional ban on military aid to the rebels.

Edwin Meese, one of Reagan's closest confidants, and supposedly Israel's friend, linked Israel to the contras in a Nov. 25 press conference. Suggesting that the Swiss bank accounts had been established with the help of Israelis, Meese said that "certain monies which were received between representatives of Israel and representatives of Iran were taken and made available to the forces in Central America which are opposing the Sandinista government there."

Israel, which had repeatedly issued denials of its reported participation in Iran arms shipments, was clearly taken aback by Meese's statement, and was forced to come clean on its role in the affair. The Israelis did not want to leave the impression that they had violated U.S. law.

In a communique signed by Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Israel acknowledged having transferred "defensive arms" to Iran, albeit "upon the request of the United States." But the Israelis said they were surprised to learn that funds had been diverted to the contras. "If such a transaction took place, it had nothing to do with Israel and the government of Israel had no knowledge of it. Israel did not serve

and would not serve as a channel for such a transaction."

Whether true or not, the explanation did not convince President Reagan. In a Time Magazine interview, Reagan — widely viewed as one of the most pro-Israel occupants of the Oval Office — stuck to Meese's line.

"Another country was facilitating those sales of weapon systems," he declared in an obvious allusion to Israel. "Then they were overcharging and were apparently putting the money into bank accounts of the leaders of the contras. It wasn't us funneling money to them. It was the other country."

In the face of this bold and potentially harmful assertion, Israel reacted swiftly. Prime Minister Shamir declared there is "no connection between the Israeli government and the contras." Israel, he said, "has never helped the contras."



Yitzhak Rabin

was arming and training the rebels.

Claiming that captured contras had supplied this information, Ortega stated that the U.S. had forced Israel to become its "obvious tool" in Central America. The Israeli foreign ministry promptly denied the charge.

Israel has good relations with pro-U.S. Central American republics like Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala and Costa Rica. The Israelis have apparently sold arms to all of them, with Honduras reportedly being the best customer. Honduras, the poorest of the lot, reluctantly permits the contras to maintain bases on its territory, a source of resentment in Nicaragua.

Israel has cultivated its relationship with Honduras by helping Honduras build the largest air force in Central America, a fact Nicaragua has not failed to notice. And now, much to Nicaragua's chagrin, Israel is angling



Daniel Ortega

Defence Minister Rabin added that Israel had never given the contras supplies, money, weapons or technical assistance.

These heated denials appear to carry little weight in Washington. In what can only be described as an officially-inspired leak, the usually reliable New York Times quoted "American officials" as saying that Israel knew about profits from the Iran deals being passed on to the contras.

The Times dispatch said that Israeli intelligence operatives, with close ties to private Israeli arms dealers, were aware of the final destination of the money.

Although the accuracy of this report is debatable, it is one of several over the past few years that have linked Israel to the contras.

In 1983 and 1984, The New York Times quoted Reagan administration officials as saying Israel was shipping captured PLO small arms and artillery pieces to the contras.

In 1984, Time quoted contra leader Edgar Chamorro as saying he had received weapons from Israel.

Last month, a Haifa University scholar, Benjamin Beit-Hallahmi, told the Associated Press that Israel was instrumental in getting the contra movement started. Beit-Hallahmi, who has written a book about Israel's covert foreign relations, said Israeli assistance to the rebels has included training and weapons.

Chaika Grossman, a Mapam member of the Knesset, said recently that Israeli instructors were assisting the contras and that Israeli arms dealers were supplying them with weapons. She said she based her information on a recent visit to Nicaragua.

No less a Nicaraguan than Daniel Ortega, the president of the Sandinista government in Managua, is convinced that Israel is in league with the contras. In August of 1985, three years after Nicaragua severed diplomatic relations with Israel, Ortega said he had proof that Israel

to sell Honduras Kfir jets.

Israel's ties with Honduras have been cemented by a series of top-level meetings. In 1982, at the height of the war in Lebanon, the Honduran chief of staff visited Israel. A few months later, Ariel Sharon, the defence minister who favored the projection of Israeli military force into the Third World, repaid the visit. Last September, Defence Minister Rabin held talks with Honduras' foreign minister, Carlos Lopez Contreras, the subject of their discussions presumably being the issue of further Israeli arms sales to Honduras.

Despite these developments, Israel wants to reestablish diplomatic relations with Nicaragua, whose leaders have forged excellent ties with the PLO and Libya, and who have been accused by some of mistreating the local Jewish community.

In an effort to achieve this goal, Israel offered Nicaragua various forms of development aid. However, there was no concrete response from Nicaragua. A delegation from the Nicaraguan ministry of agriculture that was to have visited Israel in December as the guest of Mapam cancelled the trip after the Iran arms scandal erupted. It would have been the first official Sandinista delegation to visit Israel since the overthrow of the Somoza regime, with which Israel had good relations and to which it sold arms to the very end.

The Sandinistas remember this episode bitterly and it is reflected in their anti-Israel rhetoric. Nicaragua, though not disputing Israel's right to exist, attacks its policies regularly and pays tribute to the PLO and the Palestinians.

It is unlikely that Nicaragua's negative attitude to Israel will change as long as its leaders continue to believe that Israel is arming its enemies in Central America.

And the Iran arms scandal, with its Nicaraguan overtones, certainly gives the Sandinistas one more reason not to deal with Israel.

The Canadian Jewish news

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VOL. XXVII, NO. 33 (2,335)

Published by The Canadian Jewish News
(A Corporation without share capital)

Toronto Office: 562 Eglinton Avenue East, Suite 401,
Toronto, Ont. M4P 1P1 483-9331

Montreal Office: Square Decarie, Ste. 157, 6900 boul.
Decarie, Montreal, Que. H3X 2T8 735-2612

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Average total distribution ... 52,845

Publisher's sworn statement, April 9th, 1986

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Opinion

Parties should agree on delegates, says Goody

Holding Zionist elections unnecessary at this time

By
MAX GOODY

I have been an active Zionist for most of my life. I grew up in a time when the state was in the making — when as youngsters we knew the thrill of collecting pennies, nickles and dimes to help and support the dream of a Jewish homeland. But as time went on the dream began slowly to slip away. Then began the struggle to keep the dream alive.

Our children have never lived in a time when there was no State of Israel. They do not today experience the challenge and excitement that we knew as youngsters. They look at Israel and see a largely secularized country, beset with problems of religious strife, threats of terrorism and a distant and seemingly elusive peace. The dream of the Zionist ideologists of a large scale aliya from the West and of creating a society based on productive labor and personal integrity has fallen short of expectations. Yet, we must keep the dream alive for there is no longer any survival for any Jew anywhere in the world without the State of Israel.

Organizations come and go. If the purpose for which it came into existence is either realized or fulfilled then it has one of two choices. It can either go out of business or it can redefine its purpose to take on new or additional directions. Organizations, of course, die very hard. They develop vested interests and the original enthusiasm that motivated the founding leadership begins, in time to dissipate and vanish. Also, conditions which validated its existence at an earlier date do not necessarily justify it at a later date.

The atrophy and stagnation of the Zionist movement today make it imperative for me to speak out. And I speak not in criticism but from love and concern. We have lost our direction, our enthusiasm, our fire. In the face of vast changes in the needs and demands of our times we continue to function as we did a generation ago. We direct our energies to the trivia of another meeting, another speaker,

another bulletin whereas the imperatives are aliya, youth and leadership development. There is no spark . . . no imagination.

It seems that this evaluation comes up every four years — prior to a World Zionist Congress. It kindles the drive for membership campaigns within the Zionist parties which, they claim, also act as a vehicle for Zionist education. It would, of course, be less suspect if this was conducted on an ongoing basis and not just prior to a Congress.

Adding to and strengthening organizational membership is, in itself, a desirable objective and it remains to be seen if this is to be a sustained program continuing beyond the Congress. Based, however, on past experience I strongly suspect that memberships are today being bolstered for the purpose of voting for delegates to the Zionist Congress. Thousands of dollars and man-hours will be spent in the process and if this is its purpose, I cannot in good conscience, as a dedicated Zionist, lend it my support. An additional spinoff this time is the emergence of a strong Kadima (Reform) constituency generating strained feelings between itself and religious Zionists, samples of which have already begun to appear in the pages of this newspaper.

The response that these are the rules as laid down by the World Zionist executive is not convincing. If we believe that the holding of elections with all that it entails is wrong, we should say so. I strongly suspect that other countries share these feelings and would follow a firm example from a country like Canada. With goodwill and an awareness of the real needs of our times, I believe that the parties can, without holding elections, agree to an equitable distribution of the 17 delegates that we send to Jerusalem.

This is one time that words of Torah do not come from Zion. And in any event, the World Zionist Congress remains only nominally the parliament of Zionists around the world. Most major decisions are made in advance and the real struggle is one of internal distribution.

All this is well and good and as such it does not differ much from what goes on in other organizations. By all means Canada should be represented but let us not go through the drama of an election with all the passions that

it will arouse and let us not go through the membership spectacle unless there is a commitment to continue it on an ongoing basis with a hard look at what our Zionist vision should be for the years ahead.

Education minister backtracks on censorship

TEL AVIV (JTA) —

Education Minister Yitzhak Navon has taken an equivocal position on the issue of censorship. He believes it should be abolished in connection with theatrical productions, but film censorship is justified.

The matter arose over a Youth Theatre production of *The Explosion on Ehlal Street*, a play dealing with Jewish-Arab relations that presents a mixed marriage in a favorable light. The Youth Theatre, whose productions are for young audiences, is under the aegis of the education ministry.

Navon originally opposed the play on grounds that it could encourage marriage between Jews and Arabs. After a meeting with the Playwrights Association, he changed his mind. Asked by Israel Radio why he backtracked, Navon explained that his ministry examined the issue of theatrical censorship and decided it was not worth the effort.

"It's much ado about nothing," said Navon, a former President of Israel. "We found that in the democratic world, stage censorship has been

abandoned. "We don't necessarily have to follow other countries, but what is important is the fact that during the past seven or eight years, 419 plays were presented to the stage censorship board before production and in only six cases were changes demanded, of a few words or lines."

"There was public debate about those few lines and instances and it was just those deletions which drew attention to the plays concerned, giving them publicity they would not otherwise have had, by quotations in the media."

Navon noted that plays banned from the stage are published in book form or in newspapers, so the broad public gets to see what was denied the more limited theatrical audience. In any event, he said, "the public is adult enough to make up its own mind about these plays." If any segment of the public is offended, they have recourse to the courts, he said.

But the education minister favors continued censorship of films. He cited extensive studies abroad which claimed to show a direct connection between depictions of crime and violence on screen and what happens in the streets.

Need for civility, respect, cooperation stressed

Future of Judaism looks bright, symposium told

By
YITZHAK RABI

NEW YORK (JTA) —

Despite divisions among American Jews the future of Judaism is bright, according to prominent Orthodox, Conservative and Reform Judaism leaders. They agreed in a recent symposium at Fordham University that the unity of the Jewish people depends on civility, respect and cooperation by the three major streams of contemporary Judaism.

"Pluralism exists in Jewish life. This is a fact," Rabbi Emanuel Rackman, a leader of Orthodox Judaism in America and chancellor of Bar-Ilan University, asserted. "Unity, however, is hard to achieve. I am concerned with civility. It is impossible to say that all groups are equally right. But we should learn from each other," he said.

Rabbi Alfred Gottschalk, a leader of Reform Judaism and president of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, concurred about civility, but he said that pluralism in the Jewish community should be encouraged. He said he believes in "unity in Jewish life but not in uniformity. Jewish life can only be enriched by diversity and pluralism, he claimed.

In the view of Rabbi Wolf Kelman, a leader of Conservative Judaism and executive vice-president of the Rabbinical Assembly, there is "a de facto unity" in the American Jewish community. But, Kelman maintained, there is no de jure unity in Judaism here because one branch of Judaism does not recognize "the legitimacy" of the other groups. "No one has a monopoly on holiness," Kelman said emphatically.

He added, however, that "we have come a long way" recalling the "ferocious fights" between different groups in Judaism when he was growing up in Toronto. "The fights then were in Yiddish and now they are in English," he observed to the laughter of some 300 members of the audience.

The symposium was organized and moderated by Rabbi William Berkowitz, national president of the American Jewish Heritage Committee in association with The Dialogue Forum Series, which is sponsored by Berkowitz.

The three rabbis agreed that the American Jewish community "has never been in a better shape" as Kelman asserted. Noting that 40 and 50 years ago many Jews converted to Christianity, "today many return to Judaism,

in almost unprecedented numbers in the last 150 years." He said that the amount of books published in America on Jewish subjects and the number of people who study and learn Judaism and other Jewish subjects has no parallel in Jewish history.

"This is the greatest golden age of Jewish life since the golden age of the Jews in Spain," Gottschalk said. He pointed out, however, that at the same time the great majority of American Jews are still unaffiliated and only a small percentage is in the "Torah movement."

Rackman contended that for most Jews "Jewishness is most superficial. They use it as a right of passage, for birth, wedding and death," he said. He said that in his view, the Torah is "eternal," and should be able, therefore, to cope with eternity.

The most controversial issue confronting the three panelists was the "Who is a Jew" question, a controversy that has caused a political uproar in Israel and in the American Jewish community.

The Orthodox want to amend the Law of Return in Israel to recognize as converts to Judaism only those who were converted according to halacha, or by Orthodox rabbis. Conversions by conservative and Reform rabbis would not be valid, according to the proposed amendment.

"This is a heinous thing, to question the authenticity of Jews," Gottschalk said. The question is not only who is a Jew but also "who is a rabbi," he pointed out, stating that the issue has caused the Reform movement "more pain than any other issue." He said that when Hitler

killed the Jews he knew exactly who was a Jew. "This dispute creates a lot of animosity."

Kelman said that the issue of Who is a Jew has become an attempt by "rightwing Orthodox to delegitimize the Reform and Conservative movements." He said that he believes in the separation of state and church.

Rackman, who is regarded as a moderate Orthodox, said that he, too, is against the Who is a Jew amendment. But he said he is against the separation of state and church although he believes in depoliticizing religion.

Concluding the evening, Berkowitz read a short statement calling for the unity of the Jewish people. He stated: "The American Jewish Heritage Committee plans to undertake a program of action during 1987 and urge special days of unity between all Jewish denominations."



WELCOME TO ISRAEL

A large group of pilgrims crossed the Allenby Bridge recently, coming to Israel from Jordan. They were welcomed by representatives of the Israel tourism ministry with flowers and cordial greetings. (IPPA photo)

Opinion

Southern police chief takes tough approach to law enforcement

Nobody wants to mess with Reuben Greenberg

By
SHELDON KIRSHNER

TORONTO —

Crime in Charleston, South Carolina, has dropped by about 21% in the past 4½ years, and the man who can probably take credit for this happy state of affairs is Reuben M. Greenberg.

Greenberg, the police chief of this gracious U.S. Southern city, has a tough approach to law enforcement. Since word got out that repeat offenders would be jailed, and jailed for a long time if caught again, Charleston's criminal community has trod carefully.

Nobody wants to mess with Reuben Greenberg, a graduate of the FBI Academy and a member of the Police Management Association.

Appointed in the spring of 1982, Greenberg is the first Jew to hold that position.

Now 43, Greenberg is a convert to Judaism, a Black Conservative Jew whose grandfather, Solomon, was Jewish.

Greenberg's pathway to Judaism crossed the barriers of prejudice and traversed the American civil rights movement of the 1960s.

Solomon Greenberg, his grandfather, immigrated to America from a village near Kiev in the late 1890s. He and his parents settled in St. Marcos, a town in central Texas, and took up wheat farming.

For reasons not known to Reuben, Solomon Greenberg began living with a local Black woman, probably a domestic on the Greenberg's farm. Solomon never married her, but the common-law couple produced two children—Clarence, Reuben's father, and Esther, his aunt.

"I would like to think it was a loving relationship," says Greenberg. "They were together for 32 years."

Greenberg knows very little about Solomon, who, together with his mistress, died before he was born. He does not even have a picture of him. All he knows for certain is that Solomon was Jewish.

Solomon's offspring were not raised as Jews, and Clarence Greenberg was "extremely reluctant" to discuss his father. Clarence, who sired six children of his own, had what Reuben thinks was a love-hate relationship with his Jewish past. "Jews were always a dilemma for us," he recalls. "My father hated whites because they were racists. But he knew that Jews were not as bad as whites."

Like many Americans of his time, Clarence differentiated between Jews and whites.

Clarence, Reuben says, had no use for any kind of organized religion. "He never went to church, nor did he go to a synagogue."

In short, Clarence was a lapsed Jew who was not terribly proud of his past. It might even be surmised that Clarence was ashamed of his Judaism. He shortened his name to Green just to be sure that no one confused him with Jews. He and Reuben simply did not discuss the Jewish dimensions of their origins. Indeed, they rarely talked about anything, being on poor terms.

Reuben and his brothers and sisters were raised in Houston, in a lower middle-class district frequented by disreputable characters. Clarence was a steady breadwinner who worked in a shipyard, shined shoes and finally sold insurance.

In 1962, Reuben Greenberg went to California and enrolled in San Francisco State University. Back in the early 1960s, it was still hard for a Black to get into a university in Texas.

Greenberg, being acutely conscious of the changes sweeping America, joined the civil rights movement. On the picket lines, he met a lot of whites, most of whom were secular Jews. "Sometimes, we'd meet in synagogues. I'd never been in a synagogue before. I met rabbis for the first time, and noticed these Jewish kids arguing with them over tactics. I wondered: What kind of a religion is this? I was amazed by its questioning approach. I liked that."

In 1967, after having been exposed to religious Jews, Greenberg converted. The conversion was performed by Reform Rabbi Alvin Fine of Temple Emanuel in San Francisco.

Greenberg's brother, Dan, killed in action in Vietnam in 1968, had also been attracted to Judaism, but he did not convert. Brothers Herbert and Bertram are agnostics, but sisters Carolyn and Sharon are Methodists. "They accept my conversion to Judaism," he says.

Greenberg became a Conservative Jew in 1975. "The Reform movement was not Jewish enough for me," he says. "I have nothing against Reform Jews. Some of my best friends are Reform Jews." He smiles an ironic smile. "For me, Reform Judaism lacks the spiritual depth of Conservative Judaism."

Did he ever consider Orthodoxy? No. "For me, Orthodox Judaism is too impractical, too rigid, too structured."

Greenberg does not observe the laws of kashruth, but he attends synagogue quite regularly. In fact, he is a member of the board of



Reuben Greenberg, Charleston's Jewish police chief. [Graphic Artists photo]

Synagogue Emanuel in Charleston. Nearly half of South Carolina's 9,000 Jews live in Charleston.

His fellow Jews, he reports, have "totally" accepted him.

Greenberg, who describes himself as a loner, is married to a Black Christian, a Baptist. He wed her six years ago in a civil ceremony conducted, as it happens, by a Jewish magistrate, Sarah, his wife, a mathematics teacher, occasionally accompanies him to synagogue. She is a member of Hadassah. Greenberg claims they have never really discussed the possibility of Sarah converting to Judaism. He seems satisfied with the status quo.

They have no children and none are on the

way. "Neither of us is interested in kids. But if we had any, they'd probably be Jewish."

As a bachelor, he dated Jewish girls, but never seriously. He also went out with Black women. He says they were inhibited by his Jewishness. "They thought it was a big issue."

Clearly, Greenberg is an oddity, particularly in a state like South Carolina. "People in the South don't know what to make of me. I'm like a lion and a butterfly all rolled into one."

In general, whites and Blacks alike have treated Greenberg with all due respect. But Greenberg remains the target of zealous Black fundamentalists who want to reconvert him to Christianity.

"It would be a great mitzvah for them to convert me," he says with a hearty laugh.

Israel firm's process promises tamper-proof medication

REHOVOT, Israel —

An Israeli company established only a year-and-a-half ago has developed a technique of producing poison-proof medication in response to pill poisonings which occurred recently in the United States, claiming lives of Americans innocently taking pain-relieving capsules.

Johnson & Johnson, which manufactures Tylenol, and Smith, Klein and Beckman, which makes the anti-cold symptom capsule Contac, have both expressed interest in the process developed by the Israeli company Bio-Dar. The American firms have lost tremendous sums from poisoning incidents.

Regular tablets cannot be poisoned because tampering commonly results in discolored pills. Capsules, on the other hand, can easily be open-

ed for adding foreign materials. However, pharmaceutical firms prefer them as a means of achieving the release of the medication over a period of time — possible through the individual pellets inside the capsule.

Such capsules could be compressed into tablets, says Dr. Avner Rothman of Bio-Dar, but usually the time release quality is destroyed by compressing them. Bio-Dar's speciality is the ability to coat very small particles, such as those found in capsules, with chemical compounds called polymers. The polymers are not absorbed into the body's system while the medication is.

When the manufacturer compresses the polymer-coated pellets into tablets, the particles maintain their individuality and disintegrate in the stomach as intended over a period of time.

Eating crackers on the couch nicer

Outdoor play with kids nice, but . . .

By
ELAINE KAHN

It was the first major snowfall of this winter and my turn to pick the kids up at school. The first words out of Rachel's mouth were, "I'm going to play outside in the snow as soon as we get home." Her sister concurred. It was at that moment that I realized they could not possibly be my children.

There is one old photo of my sister and someone who looks like me standing proudly in the front yard in front of a snowman, but I am sure this is a doctored picture, used by my parents to get me out of the house — something they always seemed pathologically anxious to do. I've been out of the house for 15 years now and found out last week that they go out dancing every year to mark the occasion.

I have no active memory of ever willingly venturing outside, except for school, from first snowfall to first tulip. Even today, given the choice, I would never put myself in a situation requiring gloves and snowboots, except for go-

ing out to give book reviews and lectures — I'll do almost anything for money or to hear myself talk.

Money was the reason I never learned to ski — my mother assured me we couldn't afford skis and lessons and trip tickets (whatever they are), so I convinced myself that even though it meant never seeing my friends all winter, it was for the best. I'd probably break a leg anyhow. But I told myself, lying in bed between a pile of books and a box of Tam Tams, that except for the time I sprained my ankle doing a headstand, I've never really been a klutz. This accommodating mentality has also come in handy as an adult — the fact that tanning can lead to skin cancer takes away the sting of thinking I've had only one resort vacation in the last 12 years.

Rachel and Sara want to learn to skate and cross-country ski and God knows what other kinds of mishigas. Their tutoring has been palmed off on their father who, before our marriage, assured me he was very athletic — and assures me now that emptying the dishwasher does qualify as sport if

In at least two instances, Greenberg has received what can only be described as anti-semitic letters. He shrugs them off as minor nuisances over which he loses no sleep.

Greenberg, who holds MA degrees in public administration and city planning, has been a cop for about two decades. What led him into police work were the civil rights marches and demonstrations he participated in as a student in San Francisco. Often, he got into conversations with policemen and found out that they were ordinary family men doing their jobs.

Before coming to Charleston, he worked as a probation officer in Berkeley, Calif., as an aide to the sheriff of San Francisco, and as deputy director of the Florida department of law enforcement.

Greenberg, an intense man who is irritated easily, has also been a university lecturer, having taught political science in North Carolina and criminal justice in Florida.

In Charleston, a seaport and U.S. Navy base, Greenberg is in charge of the largest police force in South Carolina. Two decades ago, not even the wildest optimist could have imagined this would happen. But Charleston, like the rest of the South, has accommodated itself to the progressive changes that have swept through Dixie.

As police chief, Greenberg runs a tight ship, with 236 policemen and policewomen reporting to him. As a result of a recent trip to Israel, Israeli police officials will travel to Charleston to help advise Greenberg on the uses of computer technology to fight crime.

Approximately 3,500 Jews live in Charleston, the state capital, and Greenberg says the Jewish community "is probably more law abiding than any other ethnic group, with the possible exception of the Japanese."

Jews and Blacks generally get on well in Charleston. "Unfortunately, with certain things that have been said by people like (Louis) Farakhan and Jesse Jackson, we've been losing our moral ground. Blacks never had to worry about that before. We were always equal opportunity-oriented, anti-discrimination, anti-defamation and against holding anyone in bondage."

But now, because of those individuals, and because Blacks did little or nothing to condemn them for their statements, we've lost our moral ground. Even when we were slaves, we had our moral ground to stand on. Now you might say that we've adopted some of the clothing of racists who have long been active in the U.S."

Greenberg, who was here to lecture at Beth Tikvah on behalf of the United Synagogue of America, travels widely throughout the U.S., delivering speeches to law enforcement groups and Jewish organizations.

Greenberg, who has appeared on such American TV programs as *60 Minutes* and *Crossfire*, gives speeches on topics ranging from Jewish Unity & Continuity Amidst Diversity to Planning for Excellence in Police Work.

In addition to being a member of the National Association of Black Law Enforcement Executives, he belongs to the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

Solomon Greenberg undoubtedly would have proud of his grandson.

done with the proper kavannah.

In my heart, I don't really want to miss out on these sporting times with our children, but I can't afford the shopping involved. I have purposely never, as an adult, owned a pair of decent running shoes, tennis whites, ski jacket or pants, heavy socks or thermal underwear. My one swimsuit last briefly saw the light of day during a trip to Israel over two years ago. My skates are mouldering in my parents' basement and I don't know how to skate anymore anyhow. Unlike riding a bicycle, it is not something one never forgets — or so I assume, since I don't have a bicycle.

The best news I've had in months is that recent studies show that exercise is declining from modern mania to moderation, being 10 pounds overweight can be good for you and yuppies have rediscovered the carbohydrate, so I can finally switch back from munching alfalfa sprouts to crackers when I lie on the couch under a blanket of magazines watching somebody's children building an igloo in our backyard.

Opinion

Essential to combat evil

New Year finds the world in awful disarray

By
J. B. SALSBERG

Comes the first of January and Canadians of all walks of life and of all national or religious streams will extend to each other the formal greetings for a Happy New Year.

Younger and more enthusiastic members of our population will, as in the past, generate an artificial elation, they will leap to their feet, with filled glasses in their hands, and noisily cheer the arrival of the new year at the dot of midnight. Most of us have participated in such new year rituals more often than not through the years.

To be sure, there are, of course, many New Years in the diverse cultural and religious patterns of human society. Moslem Canadians have their own first day of their calendar; Chinese Canadians celebrate their special New Year; Jews throughout the world and, of course, also in Canada, observe our (very sober and penitential) First of the Year, after the end of summer; even Christian sectors (like the Ukrainians) welcome their New Year later than



J. B. Salsberg

other Christians.

And so, regardless of the sector of the Canadian mosaic that we may be a part of, we will, I'm sure, do what we have become accustomed to do on this occasion; we will wish each other a Happy New Year as the clock strikes midnight.

But, I doubt whether I shall be able to go through the formalized act of welcoming this New Year with any degree of genuine enthusiasm. For, the unadorned truth is that at the present crossroads of the years, the world is in an unusually depressing state.

As I observe the global scene at the end of 1986 I am compelled to conclude that the world is in a frightening state of distrust; of cruelty; of racial, cultural and religious wars of genocidal proportions, and of a maddening race for the possession of the penultimate weapon for ending the world.

So, what is there to celebrate?

I belong to the generation that came into this world early in the 20th century. It was embraced as the century that would lead mankind to hitherto undreamed-of economic, social and cultural heights. It seemed then that everything was possible; that everything was achievable; that science and reason would pave the way towards justice and brotherhood. But, alas, while science and man's utilization of it resulted in considerable economic and social progress

for the Western part of the globe, the majority of the world's people benefited little, if anything, from the heralded "advances" of the 20th century.

The experiences during this century also showed that man, even in revolutionary eras, changes very, very slowly.

**Terrorism,
religious wars,
oppression**

- Nearly 70 years after the historic Russian revolution people in that country do not yet enjoy the freedom to speak out, to criticize, to leave or to return to the country of their birth.
- The masses of people in the Afro-Asian world are still not free nor are they the

beneficiaries of the world's scientific and industrial achievements:

- The millions of Central and South Americans are still battling and bleeding for the ownership of the farm lands that they cultivate as "hired hands."
- Forty years after the cruel Hitler war, full-scale wars are being fought all over the globe.
- Terrorism and the diabolical practice of trading in human hostages has become an international practice.
- Religious wars in the Far East as well as in Europe (Ireland) are being conducted lustily.
- Israel, established 38 years ago by the decision of the United Nations, is still in a state of war with the feudalistic and the dictatorship Arab states, because the majority of those states defiantly flaunt their aim to destroy that state.

With the world in such a state what, indeed, is there to be happy about?

However, we must not despair. Nor must we surrender to evil.

What's essential is to combat evil. To do it jointly with all like-minded people of the human family.

Surely the righteous can, must and will triumph! Isaiah projected the vision of a world brotherhood, didn't he? So, let's aim at that goal.

In this sense it's OK, I suppose, to say: Happy New Year!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters are welcome if they are in English or French, no more than 250 words, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and handwritten signature.

"FRIVOLOUS FLOTSAM"

As an avid reader of The CJN, a paper that never fails to engage my interest, I am at a loss to understand what provoked the good people at your newspaper to include a magazine supplement of such dubious merit as The Elegant Life (CJN Dec. 4).

Is it that you feel our lives are incomplete without articles with these like "Gevalia [coffee from Sweden] is to connoisseurs what Monet is to an art collector"?

If this article proved to be amorphous dribble and grind, what could I conclude from "The Fast Lane," by Len Butcher again.

Len takes us on a privileged ride with him in a Ferrari which he drove in 1973. The theme or purpose of this piece was to field test a maxim delivered by one Giovanni, an employee at Ferrari, that "driving a Ferrari is like making love to a beautiful woman."

This is a fascinating insight into the Freudian impulses of the male, I'm sure. But the article runs out of gas, hobbles to its checkered flag, and leaves the reader amazed at what would provoke anyone to write such a piece for public consumption.

The coup de grace of the entire supplement for me is the glossy cover itself. The Rolls-Royce and Bridle Path mansion gracing the background, while a model flaunts her "Montana lynx coat" in the foreground, is enough to send shock waves through those who drive rusted-out Datsuns in suburbia and through anti-vivisectionists everywhere.

In short, I find The Elegant Life a frivolous piece of flotsam, a peculiar addition to an otherwise quality community newspaper.

Martin Kofsky
West Hill, Ont.

SOUTH AFRICAN DESPERATE HERE

It is 3.45 a.m. and I cannot sleep. I am frightened. And the terrible anxiety growing in my chest has led me to get up and write to you in desperation.

I recently read a letter in The CJN by a South African who thanked you for your help in getting settled here. How different it is for my family!

We left South Africa two years ago, feeling that as Jews we had to follow our conscience.

To get into Canada, we had one option: to buy a business. Using all our resources, we did so.

Unfortunately, the business has not succeeded. And though we have tried, we simply can-

not sell it. Having no capital left, my husband and I are trying to find jobs.

My husband is a creative, hard-working man, who built up an extremely successful chain from nothing until it became a national chain.

Unfortunately, he is not a professional, is over 40, and Canada has closed its hearts and minds to us. We appear doomed to eternal refusals and destined for poverty in an affluent society.

We are up against a ridiculous Catch 22 situation, where you cannot get a job without "Canadian experience." And you can't get "Canadian experience" until you have a job.

I am afraid, sir, you have become a complacent society.

I keep thinking that if a survivor from a concentration camp arrived in Toronto today, he'd be told condescendingly to send his resume. The recipient "would see," then turn him down for lack of "Canadian experience."

So here I am, no longer able to sleep at night, frightened for my children, and totally bewildered by your community.

S. Green
Toronto

RUSSIANS DESERVE SHUL HERE

You recently ran an article headlined "Russian emigre synagogue is causing a ruckus."

It should have read "Rhoda Moldofsky and her Bathurst Village Ratepayers Association are causing a ruckus."

The article said that the ratepayers vigorously oppose plans for building the permanent synagogue for Russian emigres at Rockford Rd. and Stonedene Blvd. They fear the shul would cause "increased congestion, noise and parking problems on the residential streets."

Torontonians are constantly telling me what they don't like about Russian Jews, and what the emigres are not doing for the community.

So it is a breath of fresh air to read about a group of Russian Jews who want to affiliate with a synagogue and establish a place of their own where they can pray. I think it's outrageous that fellow Jews are trying to prevent them from having their house of prayer.

I'd like to see Reform, Conservative and Orthodox rabbis talk to the ratepayers and give them a lesson in not only helping your neighbor, but also offering a brief history lesson on Soviet Jewry and religious freedom!

Marsha Slivka
Holy Blossom Temple
Committee for Soviet Jewry
Toronto

HIS OBITUARY PREMATURE

Your Montreal edition recently carried an article about Raphael Schachter who had been elected president of the Lord Reading Law Society.

It stated: "The first president of the Reading Society was the late Judge Benjamin Greenberg."

As George Bernard Shaw wrote to the newspaper which had prematurely published

his obituary: "The rumor of my death is highly exaggerated."

You no doubt intended to refer to the late Mr. Justice Benjamin Robinson who was the first president of the society in 1948.

As for myself, I am still alive and kicking! Mr. Justice Benjamin J. Greenberg
Montreal

ISRAELIS "SHORTCHANGE" KIDS

I agree with Rabbi William Eisenstein (CJN Dec. 4) that the Israeli education system needs an overhaul.

Here are some distressing factors that I found during my stay as visiting scholar in the School of Education, Hebrew University, last spring and summer.

The Israeli ministry of education solved part of its budget problem last year by reducing the number of school hours. Both common sense and educational research agree that learning outcomes are directly related to time-on-task. The more time spent on learning activities, the more children learn.

A ministry-funded developer brushed aside my criticism that a computer program intended to teach English-as-a-foreign-language had

structures that were unacceptable to native speakers of English. One example is, "He saw by the table a book."

The Israeli system is shortchanging many children. I sympathize with the serious problems of funding that Israeli education has to face. I cannot, however, condone some of its practices.

Dr. Ruth Pike
Faculty of Education
University of Toronto
Toronto

PRAISE FROM LAYTON'S WIFE

Re David Levy's Nov. 6 letter, headed "Layton Canada's Kahane," attacking Frank Rasky's profile of my husband, the poet Irving Layton:

Welcome to the club of those who have to cope with the David Levys of the world.

Nothing Irving Layton could say would better Frank Rasky's rebuttal of a man who claims that a Jewish newspaper's praise of a poet is given only because he's Jewish.

I was thrilled to see someone lash out at such a silly, hate-filled twerp.

Irving and I join in wishing The CJN a Chanukah filled with light, joy and knosherai.

Anna Pottier-Layton
Montreal



"Characterist" Al Hirschfeld, who is shown here as the subject of his own caricature, writes to compliment Gerry Morris for capturing his character in prose.

COMPLIMENTS FOR MORRIS

Thank you for recently running the sensitive and penetrating profile of me written by Gerry Morris.

It was headed "Caricaturist Hirschfeld is New York institution" and subheaded "The only true historian of the Broadway theatre."

He quotes Carol Channing as saying that a Hirschfeld drawing in the New York Times is

"the best review you can get" and he quotes me as saying that I prefer to be known as a "characterist."

I feel as if Morris had known the background of the Hirschfelds all his life. Our compliments!

Al Hirschfeld
New York City

World-National

Decision doesn't reflect "multi-religious diversity": Goldbloom

Closing ruling places Jews "at disadvantage"

[Cont'd. from Page 1] modern day Canada." He said Jews who observe Saturday sabbath are at a disadvantage if they have to remain closed on Sunday as well.

The decision of the court, written by Chief Justice Brian Dickson, stated the legislation "burdens the freedoms of Saturday-observing retailers" but "the infringement is not disproportionate to the legislative objectives. A serious effort has been made to accommodate the freedom of religion of Satur-

day observers insofar as that is possible without undue damage to the scope and quality of the pause day objective."

Turning to the exemptions allowing Saturday observers to open for business provided they employ a limited number of people, Dickson stated "When the interests of more than seven vulnerable employees in securing Sunday holiday are weighed against the interests of their employer in transacting business on a Sunday, I cannot fault the Legislature for deter-

mining that the protection of the employees ought to prevail."

In her dissenting opinion, Justice Bertha Wilson stated "I do not think a limit on freedom of religion which recognizes the freedom of some members of the group but not that of other members of the same group (those smaller businesses that can open versus the larger ones that can't) can be reasonable and justified in a free and democratic society. The effect of the disparate treatment,

characterized by the Chief Justice as being based on size, is that the religious freedom of some is respected by the legislation and the religious freedom of others is not. It is this effect which, in my view, makes the legislation vulnerable to attack on constitutional grounds."

Rabbi Moshe Stern of the Shaarei Tefillah Synagogue agreed with the court decision insofar as it upheld the need for a day of rest — "a day to ourselves to communicate with our Creator."

He took issue with the court agreeing that Sunday should necessarily be that day. We are a multicultural society, he said, one that need not adopt the "Anglo-Saxon day of rest." He said the government ought to amend the law to allow businesses to remain open on Sunday without limitations if they close one day during the rest of the week.

Michael Klein, part owner of Nortown Foods, said he labors under a disadvantage in not being allowed to operate to full capacity on Sunday. Nortown, which closes on Saturday, is limited to a maximum staff of seven on Sundays, he said.

"We do a very good business on Sunday. We need at least 10 people" to properly serve customers, he said.

Nortown was one of the parties in the court case.

Klein said his Sunday customers, which account for 15% of his business, "don't want to wait." He said Nortown will likely make a presentation to the all-party legislative committee being set up to con-

sider changes to the law. In the interim, Nortown would continue to abide by the law, which, he added, prevented the large food store chains from competing with him on Sunday.

At furrier Paul Magder's Spadina Ave. location, it was business as usual on the Sunday following the court ruling. Magder said he will continue to open on Sundays, despite facing up to \$2.5 million in fines for continually violating the law.

He said he will challenge the statute's validity by relying on the section 15 equality provision of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, which was not in effect (and not considered by the court) when the case began.

Magder's fur store is located in a designated tourist area of Chinatown, where stores are allowed to remain open on Sunday. However, provisions of the law prevent furriers from enjoying that same exemption.

Edward's Books, located a 5-minute walk away from Magder and also within the

tourist area, is open for business on Sunday. The two other branches of Edwards at Eglinton and Bloor streets will close to comply with the law, store owner Edward Borins told The CJN.

At a press conference attended by prominent Canadian authors and publishers including Margaret Atwood, Jack McClelland, Avie Bennett and Morley Torogov, Borins called for changes to the law to allow all bookstores to open on Sunday.

Saying he and his wife Eva, co-owner of the store, did not favor "wide-open Sundays," Borins stated "to many people, browsing in bookstores is an essential ingredient to the enjoyment of the common pause day."

Borins told The CJN customers who would like to purchase gift books on Judaica for Chanukah are being inconvenienced by the court decision since they would have "to shlep" further downtown to the store's Queen St. location.

Emigres return (with VCRs)

[Cont'd. from Page 1]

Curtain will mean a reunion with a child, spouse or parent they have not seen in years such as Taras Kordonsky, a 38-year-old musician who left his wife and son.

"I felt guilty for leaving" the Soviet Union, he said, adding he was prepared for harsh treatment from some who may resent his initial departure 8½ years ago.

Other Soviets said they were never happy with life

in the U.S. — particularly New York City, where many of those returning lived after their emigration — or became steadily disillusioned with it.

Kordonsky, who carried home two guitars unlike many who took VCRs, portable radios and other electronics gear, said he was unhappy almost immediately after arriving here.

"There was the alienation, the feeling I don't belong, the anxiety and homesickness."

Irina Galetsky, who was returning to Leningrad with her husband and three children said that although she made good American friends, "Everybody thinks I am a Soviet spy, and I am not a Soviet spy."

It was the third group repatriation in as many months. Soviet officials announced the return of 17 other emigres. Some of the returnees had applied several times for permission but were turned down, said Alexei Zhvakine, the vice consul of the Soviet embassy in Washington.

Another Soviet spokesman said about 1,000 emigres in the U.S. have applied to return.

As the emigres boarded the jet, Vladimir Glushkov, who was scheduled to return to a small town near Odessa with his parents, wife and two children, suffered a seizure brought on by stress, a paramedic treating him said. Glushkov's parents left but his wife and children stayed behind.

Govt. will study Deschenes report

By PAUL LUNGEN

TORONTO —

The report of the Deschenes inquiry into Nazi war criminals was "most likely" to have been submitted to Prime Minister Brian Mulroney on Dec. 30, according to information received by The CJN on Dec. 24 as we went to press.

Angele Doftaler, a spokesperson for the justice ministry, told The CJN the Prime Minister will forward the document to the justice minister for study. The

report will likely not be made public until tabled in the House of Commons, which reconvenes on Jan. 19, she said.

The Deschenes Commission was established to investigate whether there are Nazi war criminals in Canada, how they got here and what can be done about them. Unsubstantiated reports indicate the Commission will recommend a number of steps be taken to bring war criminals to justice, including establishment of a special investigative unit (CJN Dec. 18).

Bronfman and Lewis included on honor roll

TORONTO —

Maclean's Magazine, in its 1st annual honor roll of 12 Canadians "who made a difference" in the past year, has included Stephen Lewis and Charles Bronfman on its list.

• Lewis, Canada's ambassador to the United Nations, was recently named the UN secretary-general's advisor on African affairs.

• Bronfman, the Montreal industrialist and com-

munity leader, recently announced the establishment of a foundation to promote understanding between Jews and non-Jews in Canada.

Maclean's, in its Dec. 29 issue, says the men and women on its honor roll "inspired Canadians through fulfilment of their dreams and aspirations. Twelve people who not only led the way in their fields, but whose contribution made a difference."

YOUTH DIRECTOR

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Organizations and People

Chaplain makes plea for volunteers

Holiday season intensifies prisoners' isolation

By
LEILA SPEISMAN

TORONTO —

Jews in prison need more emotional support from the community, particularly at this time of the year, said Rabbi Sheldon Steinberg, chaplaincy services director for the Canadian Jewish Congress' Ontario Region. "They are panic stricken and ashamed. They are worried about themselves, their families and their future. They don't need to also feel abandoned by their own people," he said in a recent public lecture at Shaarei Shomayim Congregation.

The inmates' anguish is underscored at Christmas. "Everyone is celebrating, while they feel more alone and miserable," he said. "God may always be with us, but people need other human beings," said Steinberg, in his plea for volunteers. "There is such need, such pain." The dreidel, tapes and chanukiah that chaplaincy services bring in "helps maintain the prisoner's Jewish identity," said Steinberg, but it is only the start in fulfilling their needs.

Concern
for young
offenders

The kosher meals, reading material, tapes, siddurim, tefillin and religious rites and services made available by chaplaincy services throughout the year can be decisive in helping prisoners maintain their identity. "Men who have never seen a lulav and esrog cried when given the chance to use them on Succoth," said Steinberg.

"Yet, religious observance is not a right in prison — it is a privilege that can be withdrawn," the rabbi said.

If an inmate resorts to an ordinary meal after his kosher food is burned or left unthawed, he is refused the kosher diet in the future, he said.

Because tefillin straps are considered potential weapons, explained

Steinberg, they can only be donned under supervision — often by a priest wearing a crucifix.

"Prison is designed to humiliate, to punish, to de-

mean," he told the audience.

Steinberg expressed particular concern for young offenders who leave prison with no family, job, or sup-

port system. On the fringes of Jewish society, "they may return to their old ways, believing that negative attention is better than no attention at all," he

said. He advocated the establishment of a halfway house.

Chaplaincy services are provided to between five and 170 Jewish inmates in

Ontario during the year. "They are designed for their support and encouragement — and to overcome their terrible loneliness."

Jews are imprisoned for the whole gamut of criminal activity, from non-payment of parking tickets to fraud, drugs, and murder, Steinberg said.

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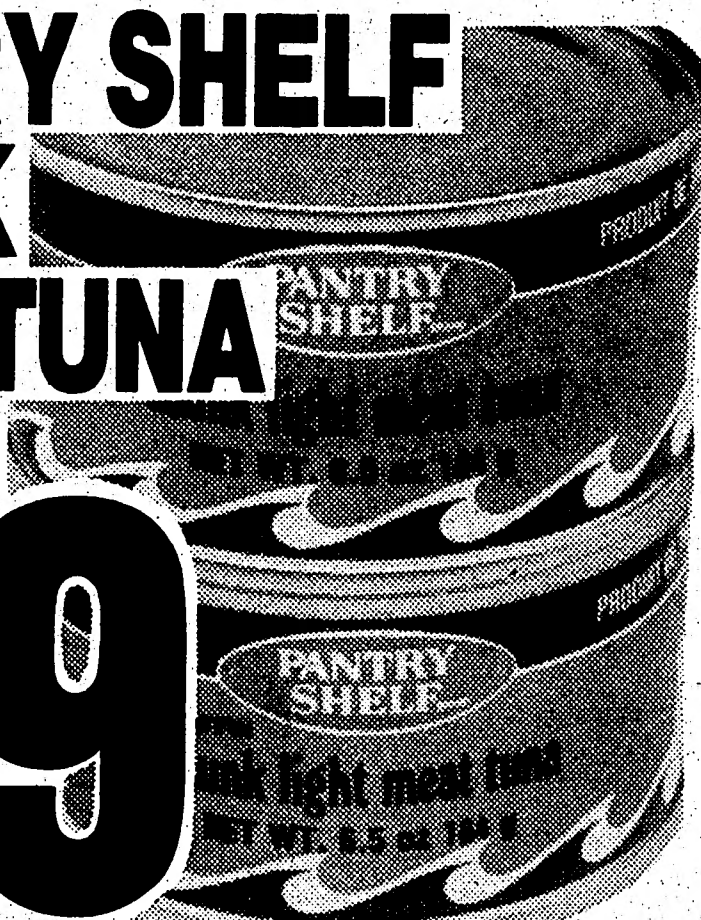
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Organizations and People

What's New

By MIRIAM CHINSKY

Tuesday, Jan. 6

ALUMA ISRAELI CANADIAN CLUB

An evening of open discussion on **David Ben-Gurion** is planned by Aluma Israeli Canadian Club, 7.30 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 6 in the Fireside Lounge of the Wagman Centre, 55 Ameer Ave. Refreshments will be served and everyone is welcome.

Call Ephraim, 631-7546, to make further inquiries.

BOOKS AND BAGELS

Books and Bagels will be the feature of Beth David B'Nai Israel Beth Am's General Sisterhood Meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 6 at 8 p.m. in the synagogue.

Prof. Elaine Newton will review **Chaim Potok's Davita's Harp**.

For reservations call **Daryl**, 222-5377 or **Rhoda**, 244-8828 in the evening. Charge is \$5 for members, \$7, non-members.

Wednesday, Jan. 7

MANIC-DEPRESSIVE ASSOCIATION

The next meeting of the Manic-Depressive Association of Metropolitan Toronto is Wednesday, Jan. 7 at 7.30 p.m. in the First Unitarian Church, 175 St. Clair Ave. W.

Mental health nurse **Mary Gleason's** topic will be Stress Management — A Workshop and Discussion.

For more information call 486-8046.

AND WHAT ELSE IS NEW...

JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN ISRAEL

Hanita Coatings, a prominent company in Israel announces that it will absorb immigrants into its three plants and kibbutz. This is for people in the following professions: chemists, from BA to PhD; scientists, Physics, from BA to PhD; engineers, Electronic, Chemistry, Mechanical, Industrial, Plastics; technicians, food packaging, plastic films, computers; opticians; metallurgists; chemist or chemical technician for leather processing; biochemist with a knowledge of protein chemistry, MSc or PhD.

For further information please contact the Israel Aliyah Centre, 1111 Finch Ave. W., Suite 355, Downsview, Ont. M3J 2E5 (416) 665-7772.

CAMP GESHER

Camp Geshet, one hour north of Belleville, for 9-15-year-olds, is now open for registration. Please call the following numbers for further details.

Hamilton — **Shifra**, 523-7805. Toronto — 633-2511.

for seniors

Beth Tzedec Friendship Club Plus 50 welcomes everyone to its next meeting, 1.30 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 6, when mezzo soprano **Caren Bender** will entertain. Coffee and cake will be served. Cost to non-members of the club is \$1.50.

The Wagman Centre Continuing Education Committee in cooperation with the North York

Board of Education, is offering winter 1987 courses at the centre, 55 Ameer Ave.

New courses are: Lectures and Discussions on Jewish Philosophy, instructor, **Aaron Yachad**, starting Jan. 12 (10 sessions) Mondays, 10 a.m.-noon, in Rooms A & B; Creative Writing, instructor, **Maria Gould**, beginning Jan. 12, (10 sessions) Mondays, 10 a.m.-noon, in the Boardroom; Drawing and Painting, Beginners and Intermediate, instructor **John Hansplante**, commencing Jan. 5 (12 sessions) Mondays, 1.30-3.30 p.m., in the Creative Arts Room; Improving Your Memory, instructor **Patricia McCully**, starting Jan. 20 (8 sessions), Tuesdays, 1-3 p.m., Rooms A & B; Bridge Instruction, Beginners II, instructor **Mina Gordon**, beginning Jan. 13, (10 sessions), Tuesdays, 7.30-9.30 p.m. in the Common Room; The Joy of Music, instructor **Brahm Goldhamer**, commencing Jan. 14 (10 sessions), Wednesdays, 10 a.m.-noon in the Music Room; English Conversation, Beginners II, instructor **Elena Shafirovitz**, beginning Jan. 14 (10 sessions), Wednesdays, 6-8 p.m. in the Boardroom; Hebrew Language Instruction, Beginners, instructor **Aaron Yachad**, starting Jan. 15 (10 sessions) Thursdays, 10 a.m.-noon in Rooms A & B; Cooking for One or Two (men and women welcome), instructor **Jean Bond**, starting Jan. 15 (10 sessions) Thursdays, 2.30-4.30 p.m. in the Party Room; English as a Second Language, Basic, instructor **Navo Chinoy**, commencing Jan. 16 (10 sessions) Fridays, 1-3 p.m. in the Boardroom.

Registration for all courses continues until Jan. 8 at the Wagman Centre office, 789-5131, ext. 2271.

To register, a North York Board of Education form must be filled out in person at the Wagman office. Class spaces are limited. Fees, for those under 65 is \$20 for 10 sessions, 65 and over, free.

These continuing education courses are open to the community. Membership in the Wagman Centre is not necessary.

The Wagman Centre's Joy of Theatre group will attend a performance of B-Movie by **Tom Wood**, 7.30 p.m., Jan. 22, at Toronto Workshop Productions, 12 Alexander St. Cost is \$11.20 per person. Please enrol at the Wagman Centre desk. Only those who reply with payment will be considered registered. Early bookings are advised.

The Wagman Centre Self-Help Widowers Program for men over 55 years of age, widowed less than two years, will be held Wednesday, Jan. 7 from 7.30-9.30 p.m. in the Lipa and Fanny Green Library of the Wagman Centre, 55 Ameer Ave. For information call 789-5131, local 2269, Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Computers for Seniors, is presented by the Jewish Community Centre Adult Services Department. A new 8-week course begins Monday, Jan. 12 from 3.30-5.30 p.m. at the Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. Instruction is free to seniors and members. Fee is \$16 for non-members under 65. Cost of materials is \$5. For more details contact **Teme Kernerman**, 636-1880, ext. 232.

CENTRE FOR CREATIVE LIVING

The Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living is located at 1003 Steeles Ave. W. The phone number is 225-2112.

In cooperation with the North York Board of Education, the Creative Living Continuing Education Department presents the following courses: A Discussion of Media Events with **Prof. Gary Begg**, Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-noon, Jan. 7-Feb. 24, 8 sessions, in the Music Room, materials fee, \$5; Computers for Seniors, Wednesdays, 10 a.m.-noon, January 7-Feb. 24, 8 sessions, in the Music Room, materials fee \$5; Creative Writing with **Maria Gould**, Fridays 10 a.m.-noon, Jan. 9-March 13, 10 sessions, in the Library; Astronomy, Astrology and You with **Lessia Tuhay-Bey**, Mondays, 1.30-3.30, 4 sessions, Jan. 12-Feb. 2 in the Music Room.

There is no charge for members, non-members under 65, \$2 each session, all seniors, no charge.

For additional information call **Bookie Kwart**, 225-2112.

Become Aware of Toronto Jewish Assistance

Services. Come to a meeting in the synagogue at 1.30 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 8, to hear **Devora Danziger**, former director of the organization, explain how it services the community. Here is your chance to find out all about it.

at the jcc

The Bloor Jewish Community Centre, located at 750 Spadina Ave., offers a Good Age Club to interested members of the community. Thursday afternoon Drop-In providing a social and informative program, meets at 2 p.m. All are welcome. Cost is \$5 membership for one year, and 50c for members, 75c non-members, weekly, for refreshments.

For more information call **Florence Maran**, or **Annette Anker**, at 924-6211.

singles

All single Jews, 25-40, regardless of affiliation, are invited to join the **Floating Singles Congregation**, meeting once a month in Reform and Conservative synagogues throughout Toronto. Host at an Oneg Shabbat Friday, Jan. 9, is Adath Israel Congregation. To inquire further, contact **Rabbi Joseph Kelman**, Beth Emeth, 633-3838 or **Rabbi Howard Markose**, Adath Israel, 635-5340.

JCC Valley Singles Centre announces its "Hotline" for 24-hour taped information on happenings in the Jewish community. Call 889-5101.

Metro Toronto Singles welcomes you to an Intercity Singles Party, 8 p.m., Sunday Jan. 4, in the Convention Hall of the Triumph Hotel, 2737 Keele St., (Keele and Hwy. 401). Singles from Toronto, Montreal and Detroit have been invited. Cover is \$8. For more details phone Sid, 222-7111.

About People

ONT MEN'S ORT EXECUTIVE

At Ontario Men's ORT biennial general assembly election meeting in Beth Emeth Bais Yehudah Synagogue, **Dr. Martin Dobkin** was re-elected for a 2-year term as president. Also elected were **Marvin Greenberg**, 1st vice-president and chairman of the board; **Walter Bick** and **Jack Mazin**, vice-presidents; **Franklin Moskoff**, secretary and **Eric Grove** treasurer.



HOLY BLOSSOM OFFICERS

Holy Blossom Temple officers elected for 1986-87 at the annual meeting are (from left) **Nancy Ruth**, vice-president; **Gordon S. Wolfe**, immediate past president; **Max E. Enkin**, honorary life president; **Frederick H. Zemans**, president; **Diana Goodman**, treasurer; **Rabbi Dow Marmur**; **Richard L. Krelstein**, vice-president; **Franklin Pulver**, financial secretary; absent, **Dr. Roger Hyman**, secretary.



CHANUKAH FEST REHEARSAL

Students at Bialik Hebrew Day School are seen here rehearsing for the recent Chanukah Fest sponsored by North York and organized by the Jewish Community Centre Northeast Valley Branch. A number of schools and organizations participated. (Graphic Artists photo)

Deadline Change for Charitable Organizations

Starting with the January 15th issue, the advertising deadline for all synagogues, schools and charitable organizations will be

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Organizations and People



Irene Fink, general chairman for Focus Week, discusses plans with Ron Appleby, president of Toronto Jewish Congress, the organization sponsoring the event.

Focus Week in May

Limelight for TJC services

By
ESTHER MEHR

TORONTO —

Focus Week, starting May 17, will be a week-long celebration of Toronto's Jewish community services "on a scale never before attempted nor seen in this community," says Toronto Jewish Congress.

Ron Appleby, president of TJC, sponsor of the event, reports that planning has been in the works for close to a year under the general chairmanship of Irene Fink and her associate chairmen Bobby Katz and Larry Shapiro.

Site for the week's festivities will be the North Branch Jewish Community Centre and the Lipa Green Building, with both

indoor and outdoor facilities used for displays and entertainment.

The first two days of Focus Week, which fall on the Victoria Day weekend, will be combined with United Jewish Appeal's Walk for Israel, chaired by Gloria Clamen, and a greatly expanded festival, under Barbara Lampcov's chairmanship.

Although emphasis of Focus Week will be on the local community and will showcase social service agencies, schools and a Jewish cultural pavilion, there will also be an Israel component featuring Israeli hi-tech, fashion and products.

Thirty agencies, schools, social and religious institutions, TJC, UJA and

United Way will participate, setting up displays demonstrating the scope and nature of services they offer.

"Nothing of this magnitude has ever been done in the Jewish community," said Irene Fink. "It's a mammoth undertaking, but we think it's well worth the effort involved."

The primary objective of Focus Week, Mrs. Fink points out, is to increase awareness, to reach out and educate members of the community, involved or otherwise, regarding the vast network of services and programs available as well as help facilitate access to those services.

The showcase weekend of Focus Week will pro-

vide agencies with an opportunity to interact with a wide segment of the public and with each other, while presenting a unique view of their services, she added.

Ron Appleby describes Focus Week as "the equivalent of a trade fair in the business world. We're showcasing our 'products' to the public sector."

The festival, which Appleby says will be a "Harbourfront-type happening," as of now includes a Garden Brothers circus, amusement rides, carnival midway, children's village, petting zoo, elephant and pony rides, live entertainment on outdoor stages, plus fireworks and a Lag B'Omer family bonfire.

Hundreds of volunteers have been working on the planning and development of exhibits and special programs that will be featured throughout the week.

"The excitement already generated, suggests to us that we can expect at least 10,000 visitors at Focus Week," Bobby Katz and Larry Shapiro predicted.

The member of the Vancouver Lawn Tennis Club and Richmond Golf and Country Club, the wife of Canadian financier Samuel Belzberg has lived in Canada since she moved to Edmonton in 1950.

Tips to make shoveling even less of a snow job

TORONTO —

When mounds of the fluffy white stuff begin piling around your door, resist the impulse to grab the nearest shovel and start plowing energetically toward the street, the Ontario Safety League advises.

Snow shoveling is heavy work and requires the proper technique if you want to avoid straining your heart and back, the league says in its Safety Update publication.

Here are a few shoveling tips for you to follow:

- Cover as much exposed skin as possible, especially when the wind chill is below minus 15 degrees C.

Use multiple layers of lightweight clothing for easy movement. Top layers can be removed as you work to prevent overheating.

- Use a sturdy, lightweight shovel to push snow out of the way. If you must lift it, take small scoops and use your legs and entire body to help lift the load, not just your arms and back.

- The best time to shovel snow is before eating, or at least one to two hours after eating.

If at any point you feel pain or heaviness in your chest, or are dizzy, faint, or sweating profusely, stop shoveling immediately and get medical help. You may be having a heart attack.

Changes could allow war crimes trials

By
PAUL LUNGEN

TORONTO —

Changes to the criminal law proposed by the Law Reform Commission leave open the possibility that Canadian criminal courts could assume jurisdiction for war crimes.

A proposed change to the criminal law in the Commission's report, tabled in the House of Commons by Justice Minister Ray Hnatyshyn, states Canadian courts can try in Canada "any universal crime recognized by Canada committed anywhere by anyone."

"Universal crimes" include such acts as piracy, slavery and war crimes, according to Francois Handfield, secretary and coordinator of the team that drafted the proposed updated Criminal Code.

Other universal crimes might include the violation of international treaties (such as the Geneva Convention) and genocide, Handfield added.

The proposal is an exception to the general criminal law principle that "no person shall be convicted in Canada for a crime committed wholly outside Canada."

One of the legal measures considered by the Deschenes Commission, which investigated Nazi war criminals and was to report at the end of the year, was prosecuting in Canada Nazi war criminals. According to a published report (termed "speculative" by Michael Meighen, Deschenes Commission counsel) the Nazi probe will recommend that the criminal law be amended to allow for prosecution of war criminals in Canada.

(A second question dealing with prosecution of Nazi war criminals and raised before the Deschenes Commission was whether Canadian law could apply to crimes committed prior to their enactment.

Legal briefs prepared by B'nai B'rith Canada and the Canadian Jewish Congress and presented to the Deschenes Commission, argue that the acts in question — crimes against humanity — were criminal under international law at the time they were perpetrated and were not made illegal afterwards.

Consequently, no violation of the principle of retroactivity would occur by allowing Canadian courts to try war criminals for acts committed prior to enactment of the legislation.)

The LRC's proposed amended Criminal Code also recommends more serious consequences for crimes committed by terrorists.

Purposely killing another

person becomes first degree murder (and not ordinary murder) when "committed for terrorist or political motives."

The result of being found guilty of first degree murder would "merit a very severe penalty," the LRC suggests. The Commission also proposes that when certain crimes against the person — such as assault, extortion, kidnapping, child abduction and harassment — are "committed for terrorist or political motives," they become "aggravated."

The Commission recommended that those being sentenced for committing aggravated crimes should be dealt with more severely with a higher maximum penalty, Handfield said.

Starr will get B'nai B'rith honor scroll

TORONTO —

B'nai B'rith Canada will present Patti Starr with its Scroll of Leadership at a tribute dinner March 24.

Starr is being honored for her more than 20 years as a volunteer with BB as an organizer, planner and motivator in various regional and local positions. She is currently an officer of the Canadian Jewish Congress and grants officer of the National Council of Jewish Women of Canada, Toronto Section as well as president of its charitable foundation.

She has also served as an officer of the Jewish Community Centre, chairman of the federal advisory board — employment and immigration, and chairman of the foundation division of the United Way of Metropolitan Toronto.



Patti Starr

Starr has also been appointed to numerous board positions outside the Jewish community. These include North York's committee of adjustment, Metropolitan Toronto's housing authority and social planning council and the Ontario Committee of the Status of Women.

Frances Belzberg named to Tennis Canada board

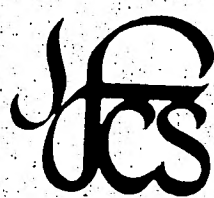
TORONTO —

Frances Belzberg of Vancouver has been appointed to the board of directors of Tennis Canada, the national sport governing body announced at its recent meeting here.

The native of Los Angeles has lived in Vancouver since 1968 and has served the city on a variety of cultural groups, including the Mayor's Task Force for Business and the Arts.

Belzberg joins the board of Tennis Canada as the national organization prepares to host the world's largest women's tennis event — the Federation Cup by NEC — July 26-Aug. 2 at the Hollyburn Country Club in West Vancouver. She has been appointed voluntary chairperson of the international women's team tennis championships.

Active in Variety Club, Belzberg has spent three years as a member of the executive committee of the Vancouver Art Gallery. She is a member of the board of directors of the Vancouver Children's Hospital.



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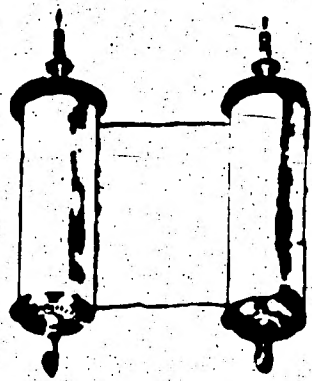


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Organizations and People



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By

RABBI MEIR URI GOTTESMAN

Zot Chanukah/Parshat Meekaytz

We are all human beings. We must all help each other.

When Schneor Zalman of Liadi was arrested by the Czarist authorities, he sent a special messenger to Reb Levi Yitzchak of Berditchev to pray for him.

The messenger entered just as the tzaddik had the Bible opened to the words from this week's parsha... "kee yeish shever bi-Mitzriam... there is grain in Egypt."

Promised Reb Levi Yitzchak: "Don't worry, everything will come out right. Just as Joseph was freed from prison in Egypt, so will Reb Schneor Zalman be freed by the authorities." And he added: "Look at the word 'shever' (Shin Bet Raish) — it stands for 'Schneor ben Rivka'..."

When things are good, everyone is happy. But when they're not? When some have, and some are broke?

Consider... the Pharaoh of Egypt had a famous dream. "Henay shevah parot... Behold there came out of the river seven good looking cows, fat, well-fleshed, and they grazed in a meadow..."

What does that mean, good looking cows? What did they have, Pierre Cardin outfits? Reebok running shoes? Eyeshadow?

But — explains Rashi — it was a sign for the seven fat years to come. In good, prosperous years, everyone looks good to everyone else. No one is jealous. I'm okay, you're okay.

Where did they graze? "Ba-achu... In a meadow..." Strange word, ba-achu, for meadow. But the Tanchuma explains that "achu, meadow, also comes from the word 'achvah', brotherhood, friendship, harmony."

When there is plenty of food, everyone grazes in brotherhood and harmony.

But when seven skinny cows sprung up? They looked with envy at the fat cows. They look bitterly at each other. Every cow was miserable. There was no achvah, no peace; they ate up the fat cows.

What world are we living in in Toronto? Seven fat years or seven lean years?

The answer is both. Side by side, there are two Torontos. There is a Toronto with ever bigger houses springing up like mushrooms, and there is a Toronto where homeless wander the streets; there is a Toronto of fine clothing and upscale buying booms, and a Toronto where welfare mothers can't make their cheques stretch to the end of the month; there is a Toronto of mass exodus south to avoid the freezing winter, and a Toronto of rooming houses where miserable lives are played out in cots.

Side by side. A few minutes apart. People. Human beings.

What is our responsibility? What am I doing? What are you doing? Are we too locked up in our world, our own dreams?

Two people had dreams — Pharaoh and Father Jacob.

When Pharaoh had a troubling dream, "vayikatz... vayishan... He woke up, he fell back asleep..."

When Jacob had a dream, "va-yikatz... vayomar..." He woke up, he spoke, he prayed, he acted.

Shall we act, or shall we dream? Shabbat Shalom.

Soviet Jewry groups:

Sakharov release no harbinger

By
WENDY ROSEN

TORONTO —

Local Jewish groups are somewhat cynical about the release of Andrei Sakharov from internal exile and say that in no way can it be looked upon as a softening of human rights policy in the Soviet Union.

Sam Resnick, director of the Canadian Jewish Congress' Committee for Soviet Jewry, said it wasn't much of a release for the non-Jewish human rights activist.

"They've allowed a sick

and elderly man to go from one town (Gorky) to another (Moscow) and die among his friends," he said. "It's typical of the Soviets to highlight one person and ignore everyone else. There were only 100 Jews granted exit visas in November."

Resnick said another aspect of the move which he termed a cheap psychological trick is that it effectively "knocks off the leaders of the Helsinki Watch Group" of which he and Natan Scharansky, granted an exit visa last February, were the ringleaders.

"The Russians' public relations department is working overtime."

Moshe Ronen, president of the Toronto-based North American Jewish Students' Network, agreed with this sentiment.

"I'm cautiously optimistic about an easing of human rights policy but until I see something substantial I won't believe it's anything but a public relations job par excellence."

"I don't think you can draw too much from it because that's exactly what the Soviets want," he said. "While it's welcome, I wouldn't say it reflects a change in Soviet policy — right now it's just cosmetics."

Jeanette Goldman, chairman of the National Council of Jewish Women of Canada, Toronto Section's Soviet Jewry Committee, said although she was delighted with Sakharov's release — "he's an important human rights spokesman and a friend to Refuseniks" — is cautious about the Soviet Union's commitment to human rights.

She said the Soviets have not translated their so-called openness in a more humanitarian approach to reunification with families in the West.

"If the purpose is to diminish our advocacy, it is in vain because we will continue the struggle for those trying to get out and the Prisoners of Zion."

"The Soviet Union has to act on many human rights violations and restore these rights before trust can be established with the West."

Harry Bick, president of B'nai B'rith Canada, also expressed this attitude.

"We are fearful that this is yet another attempt to camouflage their inertia on the issue of human rights by releasing a few high-profile dissidents," he said. "We must not be misled by the release of Scharansky or any other individual Refusenik into believing that a new era has dawned in Moscow."

"There are still many thousands of people who wish to leave the Soviet Union in search of religious, political and cultural freedom or reunification with their families."

William Attewell, chairman of the all-party Canadian Parliamentary Group for Soviet Jewry, said his first reaction to the news was delight but then "the cynicism" set in.

"It's part of the Soviet's pattern of focus-

ing on high-profile people," he said, adding that the timing of the release makes him a little cynical.

"At this time of year — when everyone is thinking about peace and good will toward man — the public relations aspect cannot be overlooked."

Attewell said only when there is a marked increase in the number of Refuseniks being granted exit visas can it be said that the Soviets are delivering on the human rights issue.

"I'm skeptical about their motives until we get some concrete evidence in the form of exit visas."

Steven Offer, co-chairman of the Ontario Legislature's all-party Committee for Soviet Jewry, expressed a more cautiously optimistic outlook.

"Sakharov's release signifies possibly a slight movement in how Mikhail Gorbachev views the human rights situation," he said. "The door is not open but maybe the doorknob is starting to turn."

Offer stressed that this release should provide further impetus for all groups active in the Soviet Jewry movement to "apply pressure like never before" in case the slight shift is more than cosmetic.

Tel-Aide helps to minimize the anguish

TORONTO —

Individuals in crisis are urged to overcome procrastination and phone Tel-Aide: the Jewish Distress Line as soon as possible to minimize their anguish and suffering.

The number is (416) 636-9610.

Tel-Aide's listeners are trained volunteers who offer a sympathetic ear, sound practical advice, and precise referrals, according to a Tel-Aide communique.

Troubled people's "misplaced confidence or naive beliefs that somehow things will work out for them in isolation" will only make things worse for them, the communique said.

"One of the saddest things about the calls we get," said a Tel-Aide listener, "is that some of the misery people suffer could have been avoided, if only they had called us sooner."

The communique presented the following as examples of Tel-Aide's timely intercessions:

Sol was a successful manufacturing executive in his 40s, who had undergone a traumatic divorce. He became unable to function effectively at work and, ignoring advice

to seek professional help, was subsequently fired.

He had a nervous breakdown. He locked himself in his apartment, and used his savings to pay the rent. He eventually was hospitalized. Sol began calling Tel-Aide: The Jewish Distress Line as he recuperated, and voiced satisfaction with the approach of the volunteers.

Bess, a middle-aged woman, who fought with her husband all their 43 years of marriage, phoned often. During the last several years there had been several separations. The last occurred when Bess left Miami (where they were staying for the winter) after a short time. Bess had been under psychiatric care, and took medications. She sometimes cried when volunteers listened to her.

Tel-Aide suggested she contact the Jewish Family & Child Service, who assigned a social worker to assist her. A public health nurse made regular visits, and also assisted her in finding a lawyer.

The Tel-Aide volunteers' role was to listen, support, and help Bess resolve her concerns.

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G. Westcott
Director of Supply
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Canada

Gene engineering benefits touted

By

JEFF ROSEN

TORONTO —

Through the use of genetic engineering, scientists hope to prevent and eventually eliminate some diseases, says an expert in the field.

Dr. Louis Siminovitch, director of the Mount Sinai Hospital Research Institute, told The CJN in a recent interview that while the possibility exists that genetic manipulation or changing genes can be used for negative purposes, generally its applications

are positive.

Siminovitch will take part in a public symposium on the legal, moral and ethical issues of genetic engineering at the Leah Posluns Theatre, 4600 Bathurst St. on Jan. 13 at 8 p.m.

Sponsored by the Toronto Chapter of the Canadian Society for the Weizmann Institute of Science, the panel will discuss the topic Genetic Manipulation: Blessing or Curse? As well as Siminovitch, panelists will include Bernard M. Dickens, professor of law at the University of Toron-

to, Keith J. Dorrington, vice-president, research and technology at Connaught Laboratories Ltd., and Rabbi Dow Marmur of Holy Blossom Temple. David Schatzky, host of Radio Noon on CBC Radio will serve as moderator.

Siminovitch said that when scientists first learned what could be done through genetic manipulation around nine years ago, the public became fearful that science would create "monsters." This led to a shutdown of work in the area until they were cer-

tain there were no dangers involved.

Siminovitch said that through gene manipulation, diseases can now be studied better and detected much sooner. However, he said, many people don't want to know if they have a particular disease.

Citing Huntington's Chorea, a fatal disease which affects a person's nervous system and brain around the age of 40, Siminovitch said that through genetic manipulation, they can now tell if a person has the "bad" gene which causes the disease early in the person's life.

Organizations and People

Ophir doing fine; out of the hospital

By
WENDY ROSEN
TORONTO —

Ophir Savir has been released from the Hospital for Sick Children after heart surgery.

Dr. Robert Freedom said the 18-month-old boy, the son of Amnon and Orit Savir of Jerusalem, is "doing fine" after the operation to correct the reversed heart valves.

The boy was treated at Jerusalem's Shaare Zedek Medical Centre since birth and came to the Hospital for Sick Children, one of the few hospitals in the world equipped for the operation, for the surgery.

"Before the operation he was terribly blue but is now nicely pink," the heart surgeon said in an interview. "The boy's recovery has been routine — nothing out of the ordinary."

Freedom, who has performed several such operations, said the baby had been moved out of intensive care into an observa-

tion room in the cardiology department three days after surgery.

The surgeon said the usual hospital stay for this procedure is one to two weeks following surgery depending upon recovery.

Ophir will have to remain in Toronto for a checkup that will be scheduled for two weeks after discharge.

The long-term outlook for the baby is good but because the operation has only been performed for about 20 years, long-term follow up studies have not been completed as yet.

"There are excellent pediatric doctors in Israel who can maintain follow up care," Freedom said.

Sheila Dropkin, of the Canadian Shaare Zedek Hospital Foundation which is in part paying the family's expenses together with Toronto's Herbie Fund, said that the boy's parents have been overwhelmed by the attention and concern being shown by Torontonians.

A kindergarten class at the Jewish Community Centre has made get well cards for Ophir and a nursery class at Associated Hebrew Schools donated their weekly tzedakah to the family. As well, Dropkin says, many people had brought or sent toys to the boy.

"The love and affection has really touched them."

Dropkin said that the parents spent most of their time at the hospital, which made a room available to them to stay overnight if they wished. An apartment in a building across the street from the hospital is at their disposal as is one further away where they stayed the first few days in Toronto.

While some of the expenses are being borne by Toronto's Herbie Fund, the balance is being covered by donations, for which tax receipts are being issued, to the Canadian Shaare Zedek Hospital Foundation at (416) 781-3584.



Lynn Catzman and a student work with an alphabet computer program.

Developing skills in classes

Software aids pre-schoolers

By
CAROLYN BLACKMAN
TORONTO —

Lynn Catzman teaches pre-schoolers that reading and arithmetic really can be fun.

Catzman, director of Compukids, a program of classes for parents and their children ages 4 and 5, uses educational computer software to help kids develop skills such as pre-reading, pre-math and color and shape discrimination.

According to Catzman,

the kids are so absorbed with the computers' "bright pictures and lively sounds, they don't realize they are learning."

Catzman, a former teacher, began Compukids in the fall after she did a survey of the software market and realized "there were some fabulous pre-school programs that just weren't being used."

One program intended to teach a child size, shape and color consists of a blackened television screen with a circle, square and rectangle

in the centre. If the child recognizes the square as the same shape as the television, the television lights up and a bear dances across the screen.

In another program, a child views more than 90 objects such as people, buildings or animals. The child chooses a backdrop upon which she arranges some of the objects. She then tells her parent a story about the scene and the parent prints it on the computer.

Children learn to operate

the computer from a manual, complete with easy diagrams so the child can follow it without being able to read.

Compukids has become so popular with both kids and their parents that Catzman is planning to expand her classes in January to include a more advanced class for children and an adult class.

Classes, 45 minutes in length, run for 10 weeks and cost \$95. To enrol or for more information, call Catzman at 445-5422.

New Israel Fund

20 organizations get grants

TORONTO —

At its recent board meeting in Toronto, the board of directors of the New Israel Fund (NIF) approved grants for 20 Israeli organizations involved in promoting social change.

The organizations, chosen to receive over \$235,000 (U.S.) brings total 1986 NIF distribution of funds to over \$1.5 million.

The fund, founded in 1979 to link Israelis with Americans and Canadians, is determined to ensure equality of social and political rights to all Israeli inhabitants and enhance the relationships among Israeli and Diaspora Jews.

Since its founding, the fund has provided support to Israeli action groups working in such areas as Jewish-Arab peacemaking, legal and religious pluralism, rights of women and Ashkenazi-Sephardi relations.

Gila Svirsky, director of NIF in Israel said in a recent interview that the latest grants will go to such organizations as the Association for Ethiopian Immigration, the Committee for Parental Involvement in Education and the Israeli Centre for Creative Arts, a project dedicated to reaching harmony between Jewish and Arab artists.

The New Israel Fund provides not only money but expertise and volunteer

time to the many organizations it funds," said Svirsky.

She noted that NIF is also involved in a number of projects such as the Israel-U.S. Civil Liberties Law Program co-sponsored by the fund and the Washington College of Law and designed

to train Israeli lawyers in civil liberties law.

As well, Shatil, the organization established by NIF in 1982, "complements the fund's grantmaking by providing technical assistance to Israeli citizens action groups and grassroots projects," said Svirsky.

She said that the fund's

board of directors is comprised of Americans, Canadians and Israelis and all board members have equal voting rights.

She said that donors to the fund can direct their money to a specific organization. "This makes our fund different from many other charity groups," said Svirsky.

Sustained release tablets help asthmatics in Israel

JERUSALEM —

Israeli asthmatics no longer have to depend on imported drugs for relief from bronchial spasms. Thanks to research at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, a locally produced, sustained release tablet has been developed that prevents asthma attacks.

The drug, theophylline, was developed into a novel, sustained-release formulation by Dr. Meir Bialer, Prof. Michael Friedman, and Dr. Ziad Hussein of the Hebrew University's School of Pharmacy.

A well-known treatment for asthma, theophylline, a compound similar to caffeine, causes the bronchial tubes to expand, and is therefore useful for treating asthma, bronchitis and chronic obstructive lung disease.

The drug has been difficult to use effectively because previously used

rapid release formulations caused blood levels to fluctuate, prompting inefficacy or even toxicity.

But the sustained release formulation discovered by Hebrew University scientists releases the drug uniformly over a period of time, providing round-the-clock therapy for preventing asthma attacks.

It is being marketed in three strengths (100, 200 and 300 mg) under the name Theotrim by Trima-Israel Pharmaceutical Products Ltd. of Kibbutz Maabarot.

The new tablet is smaller, and therefore easier to swallow than previous theophylline formulations, making it much more suitable for use by children.

In addition, its time-release capabilities are not compromised when it is broken in half, which facilitates easy swallowing, and allows dosing to be much more precise.

Contact between the Hebrew University and the Trima company was effected through Yisum, the Hebrew University's research and development company.

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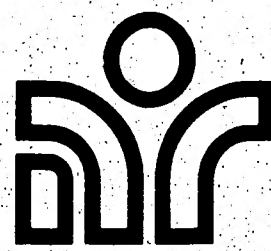
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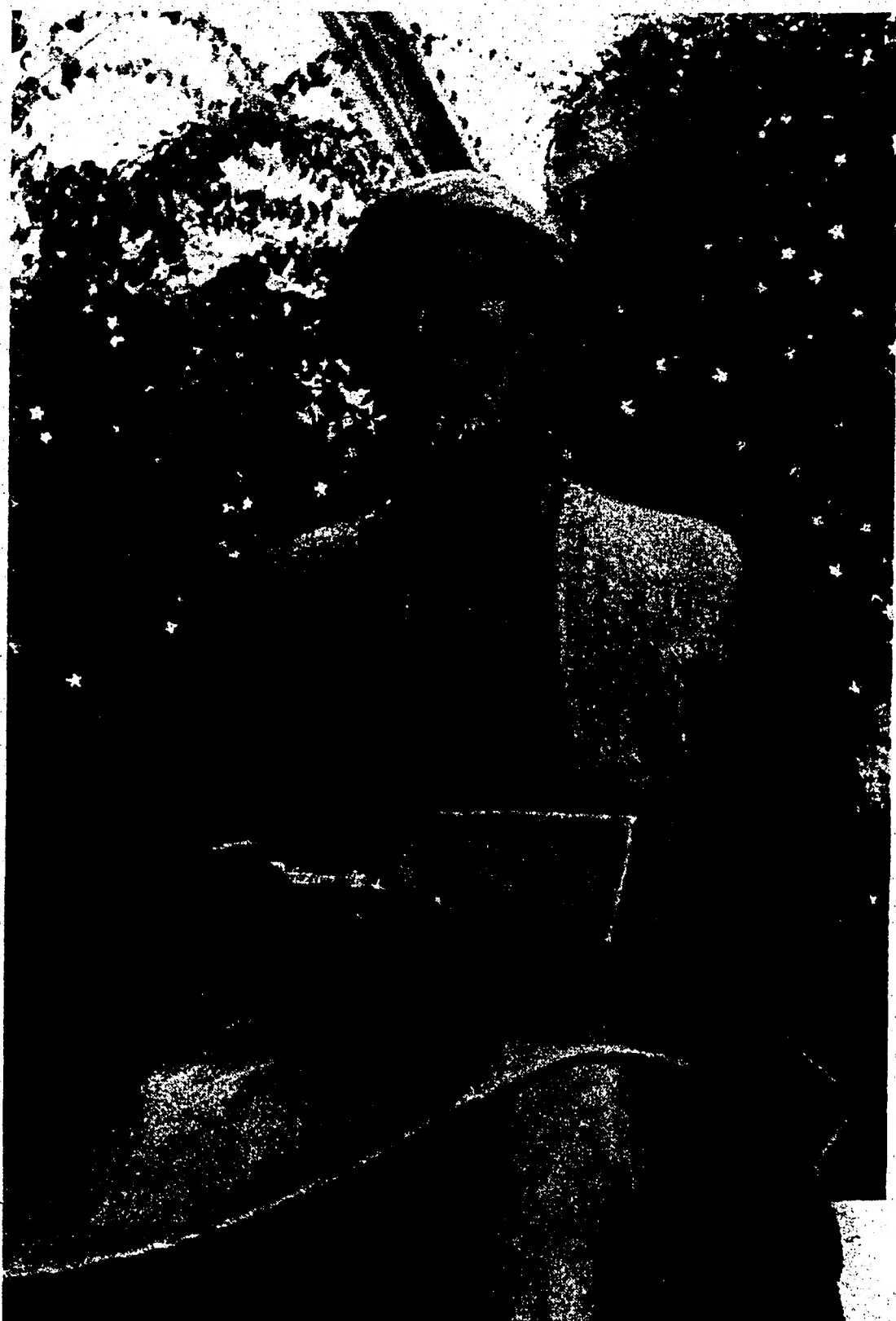
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Organizations and People



New indexed version of Maimonides' Mishneh Torah becomes a best seller.

Maimonides book best seller again

By
DAVID BIRKAN

Its comprehensive index and single-volume format — quarto style, 870 pages — have made Zvi Priesler's edition of Maimonides' Mishneh Torah a relative best seller. A second printing has just come out (Ketuvim Publishers, \$80 U.S.).

The all-Hebrew book was first published in Israel late last year to the accolades of religious and secular press alike. It was praised as a "monumental, encyclopedic work, whose topics encompassing the breadth of halacha have at last been integrated and interrelated."

The original Mishneh Torah (Review of the Law) revolutionized halachic studies when Maimonides wrote it some 800 years ago. The work overawed his contemporaries, who feared that its very scope and conciseness would lure students away from the Talmud.

Maimonides (the Rambam) wrote his Mishneh Torah as a distillation of talmudic — both Babylonian and Jerusalem — law in its entirety, "in plain language and terse style, so that the entire Oral Law might become systematically known to all, without citing difficulties and solutions of differences of view."

The Mishneh Torah soon became a major source of halachic creativity and talmudic research, sparking hundreds of commentaries and novellae. A direct descendant is Joseph Karo's Shulchan Aruch,

the halachic compilation written a number of generations later that is followed to this day.

Maimonides classified talmudic halacha into 14 books, each representing a distinct category of the Jewish legal system. These were traditionally printed separately or in sets.

Priesler, a law professor, spent some 10 years assembling the 14 books under one roof and facilitating complete access to them with an extensive 100-page index. (The Hebrew word for index, by the way, is *mafteach*, which also means key.) All of Maimonides' halachic comments on a particular subject can now be easily culled from all 14 books.

Scholars may profit

Traditional commentaries that have accompanied the Mishneh Torah from the 14th century on have been omitted. The books appear in Maimonides' original Hebrew. The latter's lucidity has been underscored by the crisp readable typeset and the clear 2-column format of the text.

Also indexed are biblical references.

Priesler's edition is ideal for shul study classes, and as a bar mitzvah gift for day school students. Hebrew readers with little background in Talmud and religious

scholars will both be able to profit from the book, perhaps more than from previous editions of the Mishneh Torah.

The Toronto distributor is E. Yunker, 20 Regatta Cr., Willowdale, Ont., M2R 2X8, or phone (416) 223-9149.

By
ANITA LATNER

TORONTO —

What began as an artistic alternative to television for their children, has crafted itself into a cottage industry for two Leaside ladies.

And now, three years after they mailed out their first craft package, Crafty Kid has become the same alternative to more than 250 children across Canada and the U.S.

The crafty mothers behind this monthly craft kit subscription are Maxine Epstein and Kailah Hoch. While their success has been heady at times, they still assemble their kits at home in their living rooms, and laughingly admit they test the crafts on their own kids first.

In fact, their business is the result of doing projects with their children, and enjoying the thrill of watching them put things together.

"With pre-schoolers, it's not always seeing what they can do, but just the fact that they're doing," said Toronto-born Hoch, whose children are 7 and 8. "When they get to age 5 it's what they can do."

As a mother and a nursery school teacher, Hoch sees daily how much kids "love to muck about with their hands." "They enjoy the sensory exploration of different materials and mediums," she said.

Hoch and Epstein also noticed how much their kids enjoyed receiving their very own mail.

"I saw how much they enjoyed receiving birthday cards and gifts in the mail, and I realized how much

fun it would be to receive something special every month addressed personally to them," said Epstein, with children aged 6 and 9.

As consumers, they found it cheaper to buy craft materials for their kids in bulk. "But there's only so much we could use for our kids," said Epstein, who has taught emotionally disturbed and mentally handicapped children.

Soon they were creating craft projects in lieu of the conventional "loot bags" for their kids' birthday parties, and as favors to neighborhood kids.

"It was natural for us to go from favors to subscriptions," said Hoch.

They called their company Crafty Kid, rented a postal box (Crafty Kid, P.O. Box 92, Postal Station R, Toronto M4G 3Z3), and began filling envelopes with do-it-yourself arts-and-crafts, addressed personally to each child subscriber.

Crafty Kid kits contain all the materials each project requires, except scissors and glue. A 6-month subscription costs \$18; 1 year, \$34 — taxes included.

They exhibited their kits at craft shows and placed a couple of ads in kids magazines. "The response was tremendous," recalls Epstein. "We even got rave reviews in Kids Toronto, Hands Magazine (which brought them subscriptions from rural areas in Newfoundland and the Northwest Territories) and CITY-TV."

But their best advertising was (and still is) word-of-mouth. "Many of our first

year subscribers renewed, and sent a second subscription as gifts to friends," said Epstein.

"Many parents tell us that it's impossible for them to continually think up creative projects to do all the time, and difficult to find the unusual materials we subscribe to," explained Epstein in an interview. "And, working mothers tell us they just don't have the time."

Finding materials to build your own pomp-pomp pets, autograph books, Hailey's Comet, sew a sponge hand puppet, and sheets of wax and wicks to roll your own candles can sometimes take as much of Hoch's and Epstein's time as assembling the projects, writing simple instructions, addressing envelopes, licking stamps and mailing out their subscriptions each month.

Together, they spend 20 hours a week preparing each theme, and are usually a couple of months ahead in their planning.

Hoch and Epstein often brainstorm with prime supplier Maria Waisberg, founder and owner of

Paper Peddlers.

"We're constantly experimenting with materials and discovering new, exciting ways for kids to play with them," said Waisberg, who supplies day-care centres and schools with arts-and-crafts supplies.

They discovered you could use aluminum the same way you use copper; hence, aluminum tooling instead of the traditional, more difficult, copper tooling.

"It's important to encourage kids to expand their horizons," said Waisberg. "Arts-and-crafts enhances their vocabulary. Parents tend to plop kids down in front of the TV too often."

November's Crafty Kid was a Chanukah gift for kids to make for their parents. A key chain dangling from a plastic needle point canvass, decorated with a design chosen and sewn by the child.

Crafty Kid is created for children aged 4 to 9. "The younger kids need their parents' help. The older ones can do it alone," said Hoch. "There are parents who love doing it as much as their kids."

Watch them put things together

Kids' crafts aid creativity

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Organizations and People

Universities to collaborate

Boost for anemia research

TORONTO —

Collaborative research in Thalassemia major, a severe form of anemia that occurs primarily in populations bordering the Mediterranean and in Southeast Asia, is expected to begin soon between the University of Toronto and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

The new venture is an outgrowth of an exchange program between the universities that brings experts together to pool research information on the inherited anemia as well as on leukemia.

Dr. Melvin Freedman, professor of pediatrics at the University of Toronto and director of the largest Thalassemia transfusion program in North America (at the Hospital for Sick Children) recently returned to Toronto from Israel where he worked on transfusion methods and iron-removal techniques.

Patients with Thalassemia major require regular blood transfusions and complications from the transfusions, such as excessive iron deposits in vital organs, has led to shortened life spans.

Experimental therapy using bone marrow transplantation for patients with Thalassemia has already been established in Israel. The results are being carefully assessed in Toronto in anticipation of the collaborative program.

Freedman's 6-week

research project at Hadassah Medical Centre of Hebrew University was made possible by the Toronto chapter of the Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University. Special projects were supported as well by CIBA-GEIGY Canada, Ltd., and by Schering Canada Inc.

Started in 1985, the program has been highly productive and led to the establishment of on-going collaborative research, Freedman said.

He is the second Canadian hematologist to participate in the exchange. A second Israeli scientist is

expected in Toronto next summer to continue the liaison.

In addition to his work on Thalassemia, Freedman has developed a highly sensitive tissue culture assay in his hematopoiesis research laboratory at The Hospital for Sick Children that allows detection of small numbers of leukemia cells in marrow specimens from children in remission of their disease.

Since 50% of children with leukemia can be completely cured, the aim of his research is to identify

the other 50% of patients in whom the disease will recur and ultimately become fatal.

Early identification of these patients may lead to more intensive or novel treatments that will prevent recurrence, he said, and detection of residual leukemia cells in remission patients appears to be an important advance to achieve this goal.

Freedman collaborated with Prof. Eliezer Rachmilewicz of Hebrew University in the development of techniques that should make the leukemia detection assay even better and more accurate.



Emil Aufgang, of Aufgang Travel, and Sarah Pachter, of Fisher Fremont Travel, (right) congratulate Anne Parnes who won a trip to Israel.

Baycrest resident wins Israel trip

TORONTO —

Anne Parnes, 76, a resident of the Jewish Home for the Aged, is all smiles upon winning a trip to Israel at the Baycrest Centre Women's Auxiliary annual Chanukah luncheon and draw.

Emil Aufgang of Aufgang Travel and

Sarah Pachter of Fisher Fremont Travel congratulated Parnes on behalf of their agencies which donated the prize of airfare and accommodations for two.

Parnes, a member of the Women's Auxiliary since 1968, was also the top ticket seller for the

Chanukah draw which has raised \$33,000 to date for programs and services for the patients and residents of Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care.

And to top it all off, prior to the draw Parnes was installed as treasurer of the Home's Residents' Council.

Technion chapter elects Arnie Recht president



Arnie Recht

TORONTO —

Arnie Recht was recently elected president of the Toronto Chapter of the Canadian Technion Society at its first meeting following the sudden death of his predecessor Mark Friedman.

Recht, a lawyer, has been interested in Jewish community affairs since his university days. He belongs to Beth Emeth — Bais Yehuda Synagogue and has been an active member of the Canadian Technion Society, having served on its national

board, management committee and local executive as senior vice-president.

Recht was born in Germany, the only child of two Holocaust survivors from Kielce, Poland. Educated in Canada he received his law degree from the University of Western Ontario and was called to the Ontario Bar in 1976.

He is a partner in the law firm of Lobl, Recht, Freedman and Danson, specializing in insurance litigation.

Recht and his wife Sharyn (nee Bettel) have two children.

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Organizations and People



Clowns entertained children at Jewish Family & Child Service annual Chanukah party. [Lightwaves photo]

Families lap up latkes at Chanukah party

TORONTO —

Both foster children and their foster families' own offspring enjoyed latkes, sandwiches, ice cream and a video of Mr. Dressup preparing for Chanukah at Jewish Family & Child Service held its annual Chanukah party.

Shirley Feld, foster care coordinator with JF & CS, said Gordon Wolfe, ex-

ecutive director of the agency brought holiday greetings to the approximately 150 people at the party at Beth Tikvah Synagogue.

Board member Jack Martell lit the menorah with 80 children in attendance and B'nai B'rith clowns painted faces on the kids and handed out dreidels.

"It was noisy and loud and very freilich," said Feld.

Each child received a gift from children at Holy Blossom Temple and the agency's "special children" received handmade presents from grade 11 art students at Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto.

Hebrew U appoints new director-general

JERUSALEM —

Prof. Pinchas Zusman, vice-president of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, has been appointed the university's new director-general.

Zusman, a sabra, has previously served as director-general of Israel's ministry of defence, senior economist at the World Bank's Centre for Research in Agricultural Development, and economic advisor to the Israeli ministries of defence and agriculture. In addition, he also serves on the boards of a number of public bodies in Israel.

"I know professor Zusman personally, and the Hebrew University is truly fortunate to have a man of his calibre at the helm in these difficult times," said Joel Alpert, executive vice-president of the Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University.

Alpert, a former associate dean of the Hebrew University's facul-

ty of agriculture in Rehovot, where Zusman was head of the university's department of agricultural economics and management, said that Zusman's main task will be helping the university cope with massive cutbacks in Israeli government support for higher education.

Veteran diplomat named Toronto consul-general

TORONTO —

Israel's new consul-general in Toronto will be Benjamin Abileah, a veteran of the foreign service. He is scheduled to take up his post soon.

He succeeds Gideon Saguy.

Married, with two children, Abileah was director of the international cooperation division when his appointment was announced.

Born in Haifa in 1930, he served in the Israel Defence Force before stu-

"We've got to find a way to maintain our level of quality while sharply reducing our costs. I have no doubt that Prof. Zusman, given his international experience in administration, will be able to help the university accomplish this goal," he said.

dying engineering in the U.S.

He started his diplomatic career as second secretary in the Israeli embassy in Cyprus. He then served in Manila, Los Angeles and New York before becoming deputy director of the foreign ministry's press office in Jerusalem.

Abileah was also director of the Israel Information Centre in New York City, counselor for congressional affairs in Washington and consul-general in the U.S. capital.

Survey finds Arab pressure stretches to Asian nations

NEW YORK —

Israel's efforts to cultivate good relations with several Asian nations have often been hampered by Arab or Communist pressures on those nations to distance themselves from the Jewish State politically and economically, says a study published by the American Jewish Committee.

Harry Milkman and Jordana Schein-Levi, of the AJC's International Relations Department and authors of *Israel & Asia: A Survey of Bilateral Relations*, offer the following views of Jerusalem's diplomatic and trade relations with several Asian nations:

PLO office opened

Japan is Israel's largest Asian trading partner; however, Japanese-Israeli relations reflect Japan's heavy reliance on Arab oil. In 1976 the Palestine Liberation Organization was allowed to establish an office in Tokyo. Today, while Japan is attempting to improve diplomatic relations, it is still hesitant to increase economic ties with Israel in the face of the Arab boycott.

Hong Kong is Israel's second largest Asian trading partner. Diplomatic relations have been maintained since 1958.

Singapore is Israel's third largest Asian trading partner. Full diplomatic relations have been maintained since 1969. Singapore has supported Israel on a number of important UN resolutions.

At the same time, Singapore's government is careful not to antagonize Malaysia, one of the most populous Moslem nations with a hostile attitude toward Israel and Jews, and upon whom it relies heavily for its water supply.

Thailand is Israel's fourth largest Asian trading partner. Thailand recognized Israel in 1950, established consular relations in 1954 and embassy status in 1958. Since then the two countries have worked together in the areas of trade, agriculture, aviation, defence and nuclear energy. Thailand has been somewhat supportive of Israel in the UN.

India is Israel's fifth largest Asian trading partner, diamonds constituting the bulk of the trade. Not wanting to alienate itself from the Arab nations or its own 84 million Moslem citizens, India has not established full diplomatic relations with Israel.

India has been consistently hostile toward Israel in the UN, and maintains close relations with the PLO. However, there are co-operative efforts between Israel and India in the area of technical assistance.

South Korea is Israel's sixth largest Asian trading partner. Diplomatic relations were established in 1962 despite Arab opposition. However, the Israeli embassy in Seoul was closed in 1978 and has not been allowed to reopen.

Once again, dependence on Arab oil as well as profitable construction projects in the Arab Gulf have strained South Korea's relations with Israel. Israel has provided South Korea with technical development assistance.

People's Republic of China was recognized by Israel, one of the first Western democracies to do so, in 1950. Despite its relations with several Islamic countries and its active support of the PLO since 1965, China's attitude toward Israel continues to show signs of improvement.

The two countries have recently been engaged in talks regarding cooperative projects in the fields of agriculture and high technology. A recent contract calls for Israeli equipment to be used to establish a model irrigated farm in China. Although China does not allow the direct import of Israeli goods,

millions of dollars worth of Israeli arms have reportedly been purchased by the Chinese.

Taiwan does not have formal diplomatic relations with Israel but is engaged in some trade and cooperative developments projects.

Aquino renews projects

The Philippines formally recognized Israel in 1949, and during the next 20 years diplomatic and trade relations improved and expanded. Under the Marcos regime, Israeli development projects in the Philippines were drastically reduced but are now being renewed by President Corazon Aquino.

Burma was the first Asian country to recognize Israel, in 1949, and the two nations developed full diplomatic relations over

the next 10 years. Israel has assisted in developing Burma's agriculture, industry and military. In recent years, Burma has been the most supportive Asian country of Israel in the UN.

Nepal established full diplomatic relations with Israel in 1960 and had established several cooperative technical and economic projects. Since the Yom Kippur War of 1973, Arab pressure has resulted in strained relations, although some of the projects are still in existence. Nepal's trade with Israel continues on a small scale, and it has voted in Israel's favor on a number of UN resolutions.

Sri Lanka, after months of negotiations, allowed the establishment in 1984 of an Israeli interests section in the U.S. embassy in Colombo. Currently, Israel is expected to participate in a major Sri Lankan agricultural development project.

Opportunities for Israel to expand and improve its ties to Asia are continually unfolding, especially among those Asian nations looking to strengthen their ties with the United States, conclude the study's authors.

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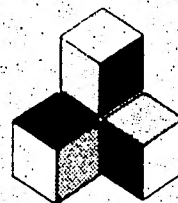
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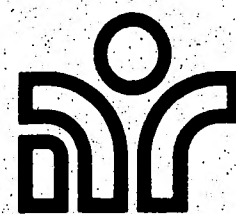
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Organizations and People



Members of a Canadian Na'amat Pioneer Women delegation are seen with Knesset Speaker Shlomo Hillel. From left are Etty Danzig, Pearl Mekler, Tillie Margolis, Barbara Wiseman and Rose Rosenblum.

Language no barrier at Na'amat meet

Delegates exchange ideas

By
CAROLYN BLACKMAN

TORONTO —

The recent Na'amat Pioneer Women's world conference in Israel marking the centenary of David Ben-Gurion provided a platform for an exchange of ideas, views and future plans among the delegates from many countries, participants say.

Representing Canada were Pearl Mekler, immediate past national president; national vice-presidents Tillie Margolis and Etty Danzig (both of Toronto); Rose Rosenblum, Montreal, and Barbara Wiseman, Ed-

monton. Delegates also attended from Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, Mexico, Peru, Spain, Uruguay and United States.

"This was the largest contingent we've had at a world conference and we were all very excited," said Tillie Margolis in a recent interview.

She added that when "the women came together we were all strangers speaking different languages, but because of our common interest in Na'amat Pioneer women we became immediate friends."

Etty Danzig said she was most impressed with the work Na'amat has

done in promoting the status of women in Israel. "The status of women department has developed status of women months focusing on such issues as equal pay for equal work, women in the age of technology and cooperation within the family. They put on a parade and focus a lot of attention on one particular issue."

As well, Na'amat runs the Centre for the Treatment of Violence in the Family, summer camps for mothers of large families, child care centres, and vocational and agricultural high schools.

Danzig said the legal aid clinics originally in-

itiated to meet the needs of Israel's war widows now cover almost every legal problem women face. "Legal aid clinics handle such questions as alimony, divorce, child custody, adoption and employment."

Margolis said she was thrilled to see that Na'amat has become a part of every working woman in Israel. "And at 75,000 women that is no small feat."

Danzig added that the organization is the pacesetter of the battle for equal rights and opportunities for women. "We are involved in every aspect of their life from day care to legal aid."

"Protect economic rights"

MP backs "floor" income

By
JEFF ROSEN

TORONTO —

The federal standing committee on human rights should consider looking into the principle of providing a guaranteed annual income to strengthen Canadians' economic rights, says its recently elected chairman.

Reg Stackhouse, Conservative MP for Scarborough West, told The Canadian Jewish News that while Canada has gone a long way to protect not only the civil, but the economic rights of its citizens, it has to continue its efforts.

While admitting that many people have trouble with the term "guaranteed annual income," Stackhouse said the principle of providing a "floor" income is a sound one which he supports.

"There is a demand for elemental natural justice to ensure that each person gets what is his due to live as a person," Stackhouse said.

"It is simpler than programs we have now," he added.

The concept of establishing a guaranteed annual income was first recommended 15 years ago in the Senate Report on



Reg Stackhouse

Poverty as a means of replacing existing welfare measures. The concept was supported by former Conservative leader Robert Stanfield in his first election campaign and Liberal leader John Turner has come out in favor of a guaranteed annual income. Liberal Senator David Croll recently called for the government to institute such a program. (CJN Nov. 20)

As well as giving more thought to economic rights — such as shelter, food, clothing and security — Stackhouse said he would like to see the committee move in "other directions," looking into such areas as age discrimination.

Stackhouse said he would like the committee

to be proactive, rather than reactive by raising questions of its own and suggesting some answers.

On the international scene, Stackhouse said he supports a request made by Tory MP Benno Friesen that the standing committee examine the plight of Jews in the Soviet Union.

He added that he would like the committee to look into the area of foreign aid and human rights.

"Canada should use whatever leverage it has to raise the level of human rights in countries where it provides developmental

assistance," he said.

The standing committee on human rights deals with issues arising from the Canada Human Rights Act and the Canadian Human Rights Commission, as well as other issues it decides on. In addition to Stackhouse and vice-chairman Andrew Witer (Conservative-Parkdale-High Park), its members include Mary Collins (Conservative-Capilano), Sheila Copps (Liberal-Hamilton East), Fred King (Conservative-Okanagan-Similkameen), Svend Robinson (NDP-Burnaby) and Maurice Tremblay (Conservative-Lotbiniere).

OSI seeking survivor evidence

NEW YORK —

The United States department of justice has requested the assistance of the World Jewish Congress in locating witnesses to Nazi crimes committed during World War II in the vicinity of the following cities and towns in Lithuania: Mariampole, Rokishki, Skaudvile, Svienciany, and New Svienciany (Svencioneliai).

The department's Office of Special Investigations is

gathering evidence in connection with its investigations of suspected Nazi war criminals residing in the U.S.

Survivors, or those who might be of assistance in locating survivors, may communicate in any language they choose and are asked to contact: Bessy Pupko, World Jewish Congress, One Park Ave., New York 10016, (212) 679-0600.

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Arts

"Somebody in the world must be lying"

Children's comments hit home in book on peace



books

By
BERNARD BASKIN

Peace: A Dream Unfolding. Edited by Penney Kome and Patrick Crean. Lester & Orpen Dennys, \$35.

Some years ago in her syndicated column Ann Landers described what the world would be like after a nuclear war. She asked her readers to clip it out and mail it to the President of the United States.

Within three days, the President announced that he had approximately 100,000 columns on his desk. He then suggested that her readers write to Brezhnev, then leader of the Soviet Union. "Because," the President said, "that's where the problem is."

How typical is that answer when it comes to the subject of peace. It always seems to be the other fellow or the other

side that is responsible.

I have little admiration or affection for the Soviet regime, but I am dismayed that when the Soviets indicate they are willing to give up the underground testing of nuclear weapons, our side insists that we must continue them. I am outraged when the United States decides — as it did weeks ago — to abrogate the SALT II Treaty (1979) which limits the production of nuclear weapons. Isn't it tragic that the Western nations should be less concerned with the threat of universal annihilation than their adversaries.

An unparalleled opportunity was lost in Iceland when Chairman Gorbachev met with President Reagan. In an act of imaginative diplomacy that would have been applauded by the entire world, the nuclear threat could have been

greatly reduced. Instead the President insisted upon his Star Wars program which most scientists believe is unworkable and which will cost untold billions of dollars. The dream of Iceland has faded as the two great powers continue to distrust and remain suspicious of each other.

Isn't it a blemish on the human spirit that the governments of the world are now spending 6% of the global GNP on arms and military activities? Between 1945 and 1983 it is estimated that 16 million lives were lost in wars around the globe. The \$100 billion now spent annually by developing countries is three times what it would cost to provide essential health care, education, clean water and sanitation for all of their citizens.

Peace: A Dream Unfolding is a continually engrossing anthology of pertinent selections from literature, philosophy, science, medicine, and religion — from ancient times to the present — concerned with the yearning for peace.

A special feature of this handsome, oversized volume are the 250 illustrations by a wide range of artists and photographers that

complement the basic themes of the book.

Two letters from children, included in the book,

eloquently epitomize our modern dilemma. The first says simply, "Grownups can't be trusted with guns

and bombs." The other suggests that "If everybody in the world says that they want peace

how can we still have nuclear bombs? Somebody in the world must be lying."

Sardonic, funny offering

Eastwood shows why he's tops

By
SHELDON KIRSHNER

TORONTO —

If there is such a thing as a "man's picture," *Heartbreak Ridge* surely corresponds to that description.

Clint Eastwood's latest offering celebrates manhood in full bloom and plays up all those virtues — and faults — associated with the stereotypical rugged American individual.

As might be expected, the language is rather salty. But scriptwriter James Carabatsos is no boor. Thanks to a deft touch, his script is corrosively sardonic, downright funny and obviously literate.

And *Heartbreak Ridge*, now playing at Famous Players theatres, is pretty much like that.

The film more or less belongs to Eastwood, who directs, produces and stars in it. He delivers what is virtually a virtuoso performance and thereby confirms his status as one of the pillars of the American film industry.

Eastwood plays the part of Tom Highway, a rough-and-tumble soldier who's coming to the end of a chequered career in the Marine Corps.

In a few respects, Highway is the ideal marine: he's dedicated, disciplined, physically strong, resourceful, brave, canny and patriotic.

But in other ways, Highway is a liability: he's insubordinate and disobeys orders with a wild abandon; he runs his men a little too hard; he tends to resort to violence to achieve his ends, and he drinks a mite too much.

Being something of a contradiction, Highway elicits a wide range of responses from his superiors and inferiors.

One commanding officer, having had to put up with his peccadillos, confesses he doesn't know whether to admire or resent him.

The marines in Highway's reconnaissance platoon, a bunch of lazy good-for-nothings whom Highway is supposed to whip into fighting shape, dislike him with a passion

at the outset. But as they come to understand him better, and are given a display of his brute strength, their animosity turns into unalloyed respect and even admiration.

A subplot revolves around the attempt by Highway to rekindle a relationship with his ex-wife, Aggie (Marsha Mason), now struggling to earn a living as a bar maid in a raunchy club.

To sensitize himself to her perceived needs, he reads women's magazines. And when he's learned the supposed jargon of modern romance, he throws endearing phrases at Aggie, surprising and delighting her and softening her resistance to the idea of reconciliation.

These are wonderfully conceived and executed scenes that are a showcase for Eastwood's immense talents as an actor.

Marsha Mason isn't bad either.

The only serious flaw in *Heartbreak Ridge* occurs in the final half hour. The Marines invade the Caribbean island of Grenada and Eastwood leads the charge. The invasion is depicted in monochromatic terms as a struggle between the forces of good and evil. And while an audience in heartland America may regard it as such, there are Canadians who may have a more jaundiced view of that military exercise.



Dianne Keaton (left), Sissy Spacek and Jessica Lange co-star as three crazy sisters in film *Crimes Of The Heart*.

Crimes in need of the Capra touch

By
FRANK RASKY

TORONTO —

There's a big difference between kooky families and loony families.

You Can't Take It With You and its director, Frank Capra, both deservedly won an Academy Award for their heartwarming depiction of a kooky family.

In the 1938 film adaptation of the George Kaufman and Moss Hart Broadway comedy, the family — including the likes of James Stewart, Jean Arthur, Mischa Auer and Lionel Barrymore — demonstrated the triumph of the human spirit in its ability to laugh in the face of the grim realities of the Depression Era.

But *Crimes Of The Heart* (playing at the Cumberland Four), deals with a very different lunatic family of the 1980s.

To be precise, this disappointing film, based on Beth Henley's Pulitzer Prize-winning Broadway play, concerns the three MaGrath sisters of Hazelhurst, Mississippi. They are the offspring of the demented Mama MaGrath, who not only hanged herself, but with a touch of gallows humor, hanged her pet cat as well.

There's Meg MaGrath (played by Jessica Lange), a ditzy, slutish bimbo, who comes home after a failed singing career in Hollywood left her with a nervous breakdown and a job at a dog food company.

There's Lenny MaGrath (Diane Keaton), a frumpish spinster, relegated to looking after their ailing granddaddy, and who wails about her chief problems in life, "I have this underdeveloped ovary, and I can't have any children, and my hair is falling out in the comb... So what man can love me?"

Then there's Babe MaGrath (Sissy Spacek), the spoiled and impulsive wacko, who one day gets it into her pretty little head to shoot her husband in the stomach "because I just didn't like his stinking looks."

The sugarspun plot revolves around the attempts of this trio of bubbleheaded Mississippi belles to reconcile themselves to each other's

eccentricities.

Bruce Beresford, the Australian director who did such a marvelous job with *Breaker Morant*, desperately tries to make their lunacies seem lovable. But he fails, largely because Beth Henley's script can't quite determine whether it's a tragedy or a comic-parody of Tennessee Williams among the magnolia blossoms.

The three big-name actresses, each bogged down with an ersatz southern accent, give up halfway through the charade and play it for laughs. But it's hard to accept as funny Babe's bungling attempts toward the end of the film to commit suicide by banging her head into an oven.

Loony it may be, but kooky this film isn't.

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"What fun is there in starving?"

Willingness to change keeps Sam's stores on top

By
DAVID PIERSON

TORONTO —
If you can't find it at Sam's you probably can't find it anywhere.

It may be a bit of a presumptuous statement, but for over 30 years Sam Sniderman, the man known as Sam the Record Man in 120 stores across Canada has lived up to his billing.

"We're known world-wide for our selection,

pricing and availability," Sam proudly says.

Relaxing in his third floor Church St. office, just around the corner from his Yonge St. store where many an audio buff has found some treasured old recording, Sam the Record Man described how he rose from the depths of poverty to being surrounded with personally autographed pictures of virtually every major recording artist in Canada for the last 20 years.

Sam was born in 1920 in the old Jewish ghetto of Spadina and College and he doesn't have a lot of fond childhood memories as he asks rhetorically, "What fun is there in starving?"

Sam attended Harbord Collegiate along with alumni like Wayne & Shuster and Phil Givens. "I was going for a scholarship but lawyers were a dime a dozen back then and my family needed the money so I quit school and

went to work at 15, installing car radios for \$12 a week."

A few years later a salesman named Lloyd Booth came into the Sniderman store with the red neon sign at 714 College St. and changed the destiny of Sam Sniderman.

"Lloyd was always extremely enthusiastic about the sales potential of records so I convinced my mother to let me open a record department in our appliance store."

The big band craze was in full swing and Sam soon found himself stocking the shelves with old 78s by artists like Glenn Miller and Artie Shaw.

By 1961 rock & roll was in its infancy and Sam found he just didn't have the room to stock all the current artists who were springing up so he moved to Yonge St., sharing the premises with a furniture store at first.

"When I started in this business nobody in the world could have predicted that music was going to become the multi-billion dollar industry it's become. But we've never been resistant to change which is why we're probably still number one."

Sam's Yonge St. store certainly has changed over the years. Now encompassing 3 floors and over 3,000 square feet, Sam's claims to offer the biggest selection in video rental and compact disk selection in Toronto "and we still don't have enough room," Sam moans.

But one thing that hasn't changed at Sam's record stores over the years is his commitment to Canadian talent, an admirable attribute that no doubt had a lot to do with his being



Sam Sniderman

awarded the Order of Canada, the country's highest civilian honor.

"Our store policy has always been to try and promote Canadian talent and give them as much exposure as possible. It's not just a piece of plastic to me. It meant a lot when Gordie Lightfoot mentioned me when he received his lifetime Juno award."

After more than 40 years in the music industry one would have to assume Sam has accumulated quite a record collection — which he cheerfully admits.

"I listen to all kinds of music from classical to pop. I don't care what it is, just as long as it's good."

And after 40 years in

the business Sam has passed retirement age and he's turning most of the day-to-day operation over to his youngest son and vice-president Jason.

"Jason has been doing a super job and influenced us into opening our big store in the Edmonton Mall and he's investigating other markets in the U.S. and Britain."

Sam's oldest son Robert was originally going to take over the business but became a restaurateur instead, opening up the popular dining spot Le Senator. "It's too popular," Sam says with a smile. "I couldn't even get in there for lunch last week."

Of course Sam won't ever quit show biz entirely as he's a vice-president at the CNE and sits on the entertainment committee for the Ex. But the days of working seven days a week, 16 hours a day are long behind him.

"I've never forgotten this piece of advice," he says. "It's nice to be number one because although you have people nipping at your heels trying to overtake you, you don't have any one throwing dirt in your face from in front."

Art Gallery of Hamilton shows remarkable Chinese art collection

By
MOURA WOLPERT

HAMILTON —
Connoisseurs and fans of Chinese art may like to take a trip to the Art Gallery of Hamilton where a remarkable exhibition is on view until Jan. 11.

This is the only showing in Eastern Canada of Arts of the Middle Kingdom: China, an exhibition of works representing over 4,000 years of China's art

and culture organized by the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, BC, and co-sponsored by the Art Gallery of Hamilton.

From bronze vessels and weapons dating back to the Shang dynasty of the 16th-14th century BCE to ivory carvings of the late 19th century and scrolls dating from 748 to the mid-19th century, the exhibition offers a fascinating glimpse into China's social, political and cultural history while

tracing major developments of style, motifs and symbolism in her arts.

The exhibition includes bronze, ceramics, sculptures, calligraphy, painting and the applied arts and crafts of jade, lacquer, cloisonne and silk.

But it is the magnificent scrolls and tapestries that are the highlight of the exhibition. There are approximately 45 scrolls, most from the private collection of Bunzo Nakanishi of Kyoto, Japan. One scroll,

although outside China, has been declared a national treasure by the Peking government.

The majority of the decorative arts are from the collection of Brian McElney. Works from several private collections and from the Art Gallery of Victoria, make up the rest of the exhibition.

At the Art Gallery of Hamilton, 123 King St. W., Hamilton, Ont. Gallery hours are Tuesday - Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Thursday evening 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.; Sunday 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Admission \$2 per person, \$1 for seniors and students, children under 12 free. Free admission on Tuesdays and to members of the Art Gallery of Hamilton.

Simcha
themes

By
JEFF ROSEN

TORONTO —

If you want a bar mitzvah set in Israel without leaving Toronto, then Event Design can probably arrange it.

Established five years ago as Preppies Parties by Terry Moshenberg, Event Design creates and arranges theme concepts and floral centrepieces for parties, weddings, bar/bat mitzvahs and sweet 16s.

"The list of themes is endless," said Moshenberg, 23, explaining that customers can choose any theme desired for their event.

Once the order is in, Moshenberg said he does a lot of research to set the theme up and provides the appropriate props in order to make every party completely different.

As well as providing silks and real flowers for parties, Moshenberg said he has now designed a Tree of Life for bar and bat mitzvahs.

The Tree of Life incorporates branches which have been painted white with glitter and have sockets mounted on them. As guests are called up to "light candles," balloons are inserted into the sockets.

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A silk tapestry panel dating from the Qing Dynasty (mid- to late-17th century).

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Arts

Memories of Nazis still vivid to actor

Peter Manierka virtually steals the show in Cabaret

By
FRANK RASKY

TORONTO — There's a very good reason why Peter Manierka has received such glowing reviews for his sensitive portrayal of Herr Schultz.

If you've seen *Cabaret*, which is playing at the Limelight Dinner Theatre until Feb. 15, you don't have to ask who Herr Schultz might be.

He's the gentle Jewish

grocer who keeps shutting his eyes to the anti-semitic terrorism of Hitler's hooligans in Berlin during the 1930s.

He can't believe that Germans can be so uncivilized that they might one day kill Jews.

"I understand Germans," says Herr Schultz, naively protesting that the Gestapo violence is a passing phase. "You see, I am German myself."

Manierka, a 63-year-old, German-born character actor, virtually

steals the show because he understands that period of impending disaster so intimately.

To be sure, he was just an 11-year-old youngster at the time, the son of a Jewish furrier in Frankfurt, but the memories of the growing Nazi oppression are still vivid to him.

"Two terrible images stand out in my mind," he recalled in a CJA interview last week.

"One was the day the Gestapo announced that we Jewish boys could no

longer go to the public swimming pool," he remembers. "They said we would dirty up the water."

The other image was a cartoon that appeared in the Nazi newspaper, *Der Sturmer*, depicting malevolent Jews drinking the blood of so-called Aryan children.

"I was such a naive kid!" he says. "I actually asked my grandmother, 'Bubbie, is it true that we drink German blood?'" Happily, his parents and

grandparents were not as naive as other German Jews who refused to pay heed to the Nazi menace. In 1935, he fled with his family to London, England, where he grew up to serve as a fighter pilot in the Royal Air Force during World War II.

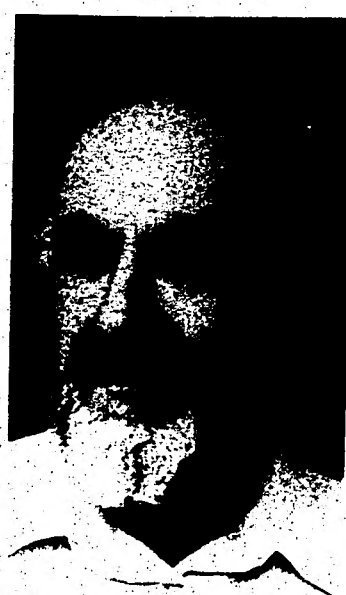
In 1948, 23-year-old Manierka emigrated to Toronto, where he has since made a good living in what he calls an offbeat profession.

"I live in two worlds," says the baldish, gray-haired Manierka in his pleasantly resonating bass voice.

"By day, I'm a sewing machine repairman, with my own flourishing business, Peter Manierka Co., on Yonge Street. At night, I switch roles and step into the enchanting world of the theatre as a singing actor."

He's a late-blooming thespian. He began hesitantly as a singer here, performing with the Emil Gartner Jewish Folk Choir for nine years.

"Then one day I found I could act," he says. "I



Peter Manierka

where he also played the king in *The King And I*.

He performed with the Canadian Opera Company and toured the Soviet Union as a bass soloist with the Shevchenko Ensemble Group. And now he has one sovereign ambition — to play the title role in the musical, *Zorba*.

He feels quite happy having one foot in two professions.

"At the end of my work day with the sewing machines, I can be terribly exhausted," he says. "But all I've got to do is to step onto the stage and I'm a new man. I open my mouth to sing and I'm rejuvenated by the excitement of the audience and the challenge of creating a character."

He admits, though, his present theatrical role is tinged with sadness. He thought he had forgotten about the Nazi torment until he made a return visit to his native city of Frankfurt.

"I inquired about the six Jewish boys who were my fellow students at school," he says. "Of the seven of us, I was the only survivor."

From Thunder Bay to Letterman show

Shaffer knows all the rock greats

By
DAVID PIERSON

TORONTO — When Paul Shaffer was just another rock & roll crazed kid growing up in Thunder Bay, he went to see the Beach Boys at the local arena.

"I was just dying of frustration when they played *Surfin' USA*, because I knew the organ solo on the record backwards and all they had was guitars. I would have loved to sit in then but of course they didn't know me from Adam."

Twenty years later when Shaffer went to check out the Beach Boys in a New Jersey club he had no such recognition problem.

The co-personality and band leader of the current hit TV show *Late Night With David Letterman*, Paul Shaffer has literally played with every major rock act in the last 10 years.

So he sat in with the Beach Boys that night, adding another musical highlight notch to his organ.

And even after 10 years of jamming with the greats, there's nothing jaded about Paul Shaffer and no lack of enthusiasm in his voice when detailing such hot nights.

"I told the boys in the band about seeing them in Thunder Bay and we had a great time. I never actually think about it when I'm playing with bands. But when I get home and into bed I'll think, 'Wow, I played with the Beach Boys tonight.'"

Pretty heady stuff for a nice Jewish boy from Thunder Bay.

Born in Thunder Bay in 1949, Shaffer says both his parents were musical and always encouraging in his musical pursuits. There was a piano in the Shaffer home which he began to play when he was 4 or 5 years old. But when rock & roll hit in the late 50s, Beethoven rolled over and Shaffer began to dig them rhythm and blues.

"I played in rock & roll groups all through my teens. I remember we used to play Saturday night dances in the local arena. They'd put boards over the ice and some of those winter nights I can



Paul Shaffer

remember playing in my parka, gloves and scarf."

At age 18, Shaffer left the frigid north to study philosophy and sociology at the University of Toronto, all the while keeping up with his music, playing bars and weddings and the like "just to survive."

But after graduating Shaffer knew that music was his first love and he'd never be happy if he didn't give it a go first.

He bounced around Toronto, playing bars, making friends and connections, which finally resulted in his first big break in being hired as the musical director of the Toronto production of *Godspell* in 1970.

"*Godspell* played for two years at the Royal Alex and Bayview Playhouse and I met some of my best friends today from that show," Shaffer recalls.

After *Godspell* had run its course Shaffer headed to New York with its creator, Stan Schwartz, to be the musical director of another Schwartz production, *Magic Show*.

One year later a man named Howard Shore hired Shaffer for a band that he was putting together for a new weekly comedy show called *Saturday Night Live* and the rest as they say is history.

"It was a very, very exciting time to be part of a hit show," Shaffer says.

Saturday Night was a perfect blend of comedy and music, combining the best young comedic talent in North America and the hottest rock acts old and new. And while the comedy was great, it was the rock & roll that really impressed Shaffer.

"I knew Gilda (Radner) from *Godspell*, and John (Belushi) and Danny (Aykroyd) from *Second City* and some of the others so it was a comfortable situation. But I was just really thrilled to be there and see the greats and take notes."

While Shaffer didn't get to sit in too often, as he now does with Letterman, he did get to play with one unknown act called the Blues Brothers.

For those who can remember it started off as a little comedic sketch with Belushi and Aykroyd and their backing band dressed in bee costumes doing the old Slim Harpo blues classic *King Bee*.

But when the Blues Brothers donned their shades and hats, Belushi appointed Shaffer band leader and Shaffer put together what he calls, "his dream soul band."

"It was just a wonderful experience and a hot, hot band," Shaffer enthuses.

And while critics agreed with Shaffer's assessment of his band, they often wrote that the Blues Brothers had some first rate musicians being fronted by first rate comedians who were third rate musicians, a criticism that Shaffer feels is somewhat unfair.

Both John and Danny had been in rock & roll bands during their teens and that is an incredible training ground, believe me.

"John and I had a very rocky relationship," Shaffer says, a fact that he concedes in retrospect was probably due to Belushi's legendary drug use.

Shaffer didn't appear in the Blues Brothers movie, being committed at the time to producing the music and album for Gilda Radner's 1-woman show on Broadway. But he said he and Belushi worked out a conciliation and he toured with the band.

"It was a lot of hard work and pressure but a wonderful experience. Probably my favorite night with the band was when we

played the Los Angeles Amphitheatre where the album was recorded."

It went straight to number 1, proving Shaffer knew how to put a band together.

With that kind of success Shaffer was David Letterman's choice for band-leader and co-host for his upcoming late night talk show.

But *Late Night* wasn't going to be a Johnny Carson clone. No big orchestras, no sidekick chortling at nothing on the couch beside Letterman. No, Shaffer was told to put together a rock & roll band and develop a healthy banter with Letterman.

"We were only budgeted for four members, so I put together a small combo that works quite well for our show."

Asked to explain the chemistry that has evolved between Letterman and himself over the last five years Shaffer says, "I think David is genuinely quite funny most nights and I can sometimes make him laugh and we have had a terrific time, right from the beginning."

And just like his old SNL days, Shaffer gets to see the cream of today's rock musicians, only this time it's better as he usually gets to play with them.

When asked who gave him his biggest thrill to play with, his answer is like hearing someone recite from the encyclopedia of rock greats.

"James Brown was the greatest, but then Carole King was a thrill also, Eric Clapton, Stevie Nicks, and on and on..."

Is there anybody he hasn't played with yet? "Phil Spector. I've played with almost everybody else. But I have yet to do a Phil Spector session which I would love to do."

All this love and dedication to his music has left little time for anything else.

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Resnick to teach singers

Opera star to conduct classes

music

By
RICK KARDONNE

Opera star Regina Resnik, famed for her roles as Carmen, Queen of Spades, Klytemnestra and Mistress Quickly, will present a week of master classes for singers Jan. 19-24 at Toronto's Royal Conservatory.

Resnik's experience as a stage director and producer has rounded a career that makes her amply qualified as a master teacher. She is now a regular guest instructor in the great opera houses in which she sang.

She has regularly taught in the San Francisco Opera School, England's National Opera Studio, as well as the Manhattan School of Music.

This summer Resnik held the post of professor of interpretation at the summer school of the Mozarteum in Salzburg, a position to which she will return in the summer of 1987.

Conservatory office at 978-3771.

Cantor Edward Fogel, of Congregation Shaare Emeth in St. Louis, will perform Cantorial Gems, a recital of liturgical and art songs at Holy Blossom on Jan. 16.

Fogel is a graduate of Hebrew Union College School of Sacred Music and has studied with some of the foremost cantors of our day. A recording artist,

he has given concerts extensively throughout the U.S. and Canada, and has appeared frequently on radio and TV.

He was the company tenor of the Bel Canto Opera Company of the Young Audiences Association and the president of the St. Louis Circle of Jewish Music for five years.

While recently in south Florida on vacation, I noticed the following

amount of Jewish cultural activity.

A continuous-run Yiddish-American vaudeville revue, produced by Jerry Grant, is playing in a large movie theatre on Hallandale Beach Boulevard. The major single-night recital in the first half of December was one by Cantor Misha Alexandrovich, the great Russian baritone who in the late 1970s was the cantor of Toronto's Beth David Bnai Israel Beth Am Congregation.

Geographically, south Florida's Jewish population is much more dispersed than in the past, with a southern boundary of North Miami Beach to a northern fringe of Jupiter, just north of Palm Beach. In terms of population, the community now ranks third in the U.S. after New York and Los Angeles.

While there is a considerable amount of Yiddish and liturgical activity, mostly by visiting cantors (the most established cantor remains another former Toronto resident, Tzvi Aroni); south Florida lacks the serious Jewish original music, Sephardi and younger chassidic scene which Toronto Jewry takes for granted.

One cannot help but wonder: Couldn't the logistic mechanisms be set up to enable Toronto Jewish cultural talent to perform more often in south Florida on a regular basis? Certainly, the audience interest for Jewish culture in south Florida is enthusiastic.

Artist develops new game

Look on the table: It's a game. It's artwork. It's science!

No — Polarity is all three and more, the magnet-based game of skill and strategy invented by a local artist.

The game board, a square of canvas imprinted with a circle, comes wrapped around its stacked 53 playing discs, and is packaged in a matching sleeve of canvas.

The basic skill in the game is getting plastic-coated magnetic discs to stay reared on their haunches without knocking down the opponent's.

Each of two players places five of his pieces down flat anywhere within the circle. Players take turns adding more of their own pieces to each of their first five — but balanced on their side this time, not flat down.

The trick is to use the powerful magnetic action to keep the added pieces standing at an angle and not have them flip over into

any other pieces. The more pieces that go out of control, the more points the opponent gets.

The discs can keep their balance at angles of 30 to nearly 90 degrees. A good player can employ the more hazardous angles, those greater or lesser than 45 degrees, to booby trap his opponent.

The action, certainly for beginners, is lively and unpredictable. The cloth, the discs, the sleeve, and the leather drawstring are pleasing to the eye and to the touch. (Keep the pieces well away from small children.) These are for the standard \$50 version of the game. The premium edition, at \$1,000, is played on a 3/4-inch-thick field of glass, with discs covered in leather.

The game's developer, Toronto artist Douglas Seaton, describes the act of playing as "creating a living sculpture."



Regina Resnik

Yet another facet of this unusual career is her work as a filmmaker on Jewish themes. Resnik has written, produced and narrated the award-winning film *Historic Ghetto of Venice*, which will be shown at the Royal Ontario Museum in her honor at 6 p.m. Jan. 16, presented by the Italian Cultural Institute of Toronto.

Master classes will be open to both participants and auditors. Auditions for participants will be held Jan. 18. The classes are limited to 12 participants, and fees will be \$250. Auditors' fees will be \$75 per week; \$8 per session (3 hours each). Singers interested should contact the

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Accepting a gold medal from actress Chris Kelley at the 29th annual international Film & TV Festival in New York is Lawrence Marshall.

Toronto company wins U.S. videotape award

NEW YORK —

Lawrence Marshall Productions of Toronto recently won a gold medal from the 29th annual International Film & TV Festival of New York.

The winning entry in the non-broadcast film and video category, was "Irvine Spectrum," a 6-minute videotape production created for the Irvine company to promote its 2,200-acre, commercial/industrial/medical/retail development in Irvine,

Calif.

Created to be viewed as part of a total communication experience in a 26,000 square foot marketing centre, it is now being shown to select audiences of business and media people.

The non-broadcast A/V section of the Film & TV Festival attracted 1,232 entries from 16 countries. Gold, silver and bronze medals were awarded in each of six categories of non-broadcast productions, as well as certificates of

recognition to finalists.

The Marshall firm has been producing audiovisual communications in Toronto for the past 18 years and has previously won many major industry awards for creative excellence. Earlier this month, at the Association of Multi-Image Canada Awards Festival, Marshall not only won a gold, but also won the Best of Show award, in competition with several Expo 86 productions.

Diary to be performed by TSO at Thomson Hall

By
RICK KARDONNE

TORONTO —

Oskar Morawetz's *From the Diary of Anne Frank* will be performed in honor of the composer's 70th birthday by the Toronto Symphony at Roy Thomson Hall on Wednesday, Jan. 14, Thursday, Jan. 15 and Saturday, Jan. 17.

Morawetz, who was born in Czechoslovakia, has had more of his original compositions performed around the world than any other Canadian composer. His compositions have been presented by nearly 120 orchestras and by outstanding conductors such as Zubin Mehta, Seiji Ozawa, Raphael Kubelik, Sir Adrian Boult, William Steinberg, Karel Ancerl and all the prominent Canadian conductors.

His best-known works include his First Piano Concerto, *Sinfonietta for Winds and Percussion*, and his *Memorial to Martin Luther King*, for solo cello, winds and percussion, commis-

sioned in 1968 by Mstislav Rostropovich, broadcast in 24 countries on King's 50th birthday in 1979; and his greatest work, *From the Diary of Anne Frank*.

The most important testimony to this work's lasting value comes from the ultimate authority on Anne — her father, the late Otto Frank, who wrote this tribute to Morawetz in 1970, shortly after its CBC premiere with soprano Lois Marshall:

"As you can imagine, I am receiving many, many letters from readers of the *Diary* from all over the world, and every one of them is impressed especially by certain passages. You are the first one who is struck by the feelings Anne experiences about the fate of her friend Lies, and the suffering of so many other Jews."

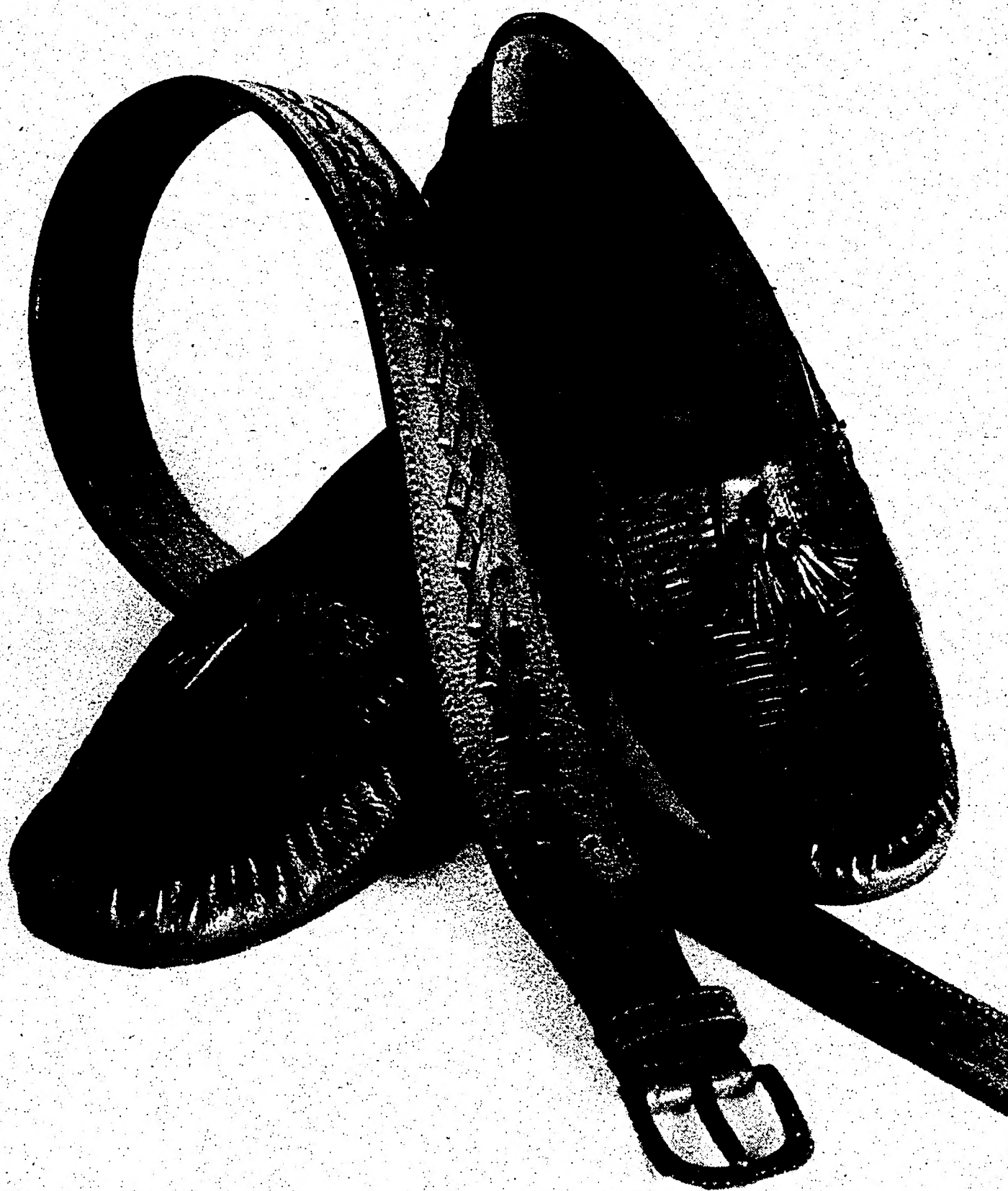
Some of Anne's writings to which music is set by Morawetz include:

"I hope that if Lies lives until the end of the war that I shall be able to take

her in and do something to make up for all the wrong I ever did. Lies seems to be a symbol to me of the suffering of all my girl friends and all the Jews. And when I pray for her, I pray for all the Jews and for all those in need!"

This epic work received a special award from the Segal Fund in Montreal "as the most important contribution to Jewish culture and music in Canada."

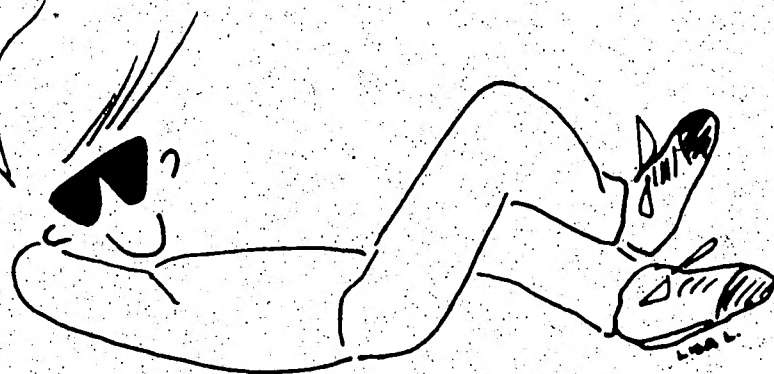
Fashion



Leather weave accessories complement your cruisewear's loose-knit looks, and they can be practical too — these interlaced loafers allow the foot to "breathe," not bake, in the noonday sun.

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Cotton-knit Shaker sweaters in solid colors are very functional and fashionable vacation coverups.

Time for fashion switch

By
SAUL KORMAN

If you've got your eye on southern climes this winter, you should definitely be steering your steps towards the nearest menswear store this month. Because in the retail clothing trade, the start of January signals a switch in seasonal emphasis from fall/winter fashions to the new styles for spring and summer.

Euphemistically, such warm weather garb is labeled "cruisewear." That is until the trees and croci begin to bloom, at which

time the proper term of "spring wear" is substituted.

Essentially, therefore, you are buying the same clothes in January as you would in April — the advantage being that you have the use of them as vacation wardrobe anytime in the intervening months.

Thus, the ideal items to buy would be those that in fashion terms will stand the test of time. To give you a hint as to what these might be, I've compiled a short list of articles I feel will last not only through next summer, but for several seasons to follow:

— **Polo shirts:** You simply can't buy enough of these; nor not wear them with every ensemble you own. Look to get a grouping of high fashion versions rather than sticking solely to traditional LaCostes.

These will generally be looser knits, short or long-sleeved, featuring the classic three-button placket and small collar, in colours that include indigo, anure, coral and lemon, as well as bright and natural whites.

— **Cotton pants and shorts:** There's a trend in certain fashion circles towards plain-front pants, but when you're talking warm weather casuals, baggy will always be better.

In cotton or cotton/linen that lets your body "breathe," these should be roomy enough to allow for maximum body movement and air-flow.

Trousers and shorts look best when they're cuffed, and work best when they're left in neutral colors like khaki, sand and off-white; although some style-seekers might prefer those in the latest madras or checked plaid.

As far as short lengths are concerned, walking or bermuda cuts are the most recommended.

— **Shaker-knit sweaters:** The menswear move to clean, functional lines is, I think, the main reason why this humble "ribbed" stitch has come back into style.

In cotton or cotton/silk, the fairly loose weave lets your body breathe while affording minimal protection from ocean breezes.

Look for pulls in solid colors like lilac, peach, olive, turquoise and salmon.

(Fashion authority Saul Korman reports regularly to The CJN on current fashion trends. Korman is president of Korry's Clothiers To Gentlemen, in Toronto.)

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Fashion

Designers feature clean classics

By
LORI SMITH

Clean, uncluttered classics from some of Canada's newest, young designers were the staples of the Canadian Fashion Alliance's second show.

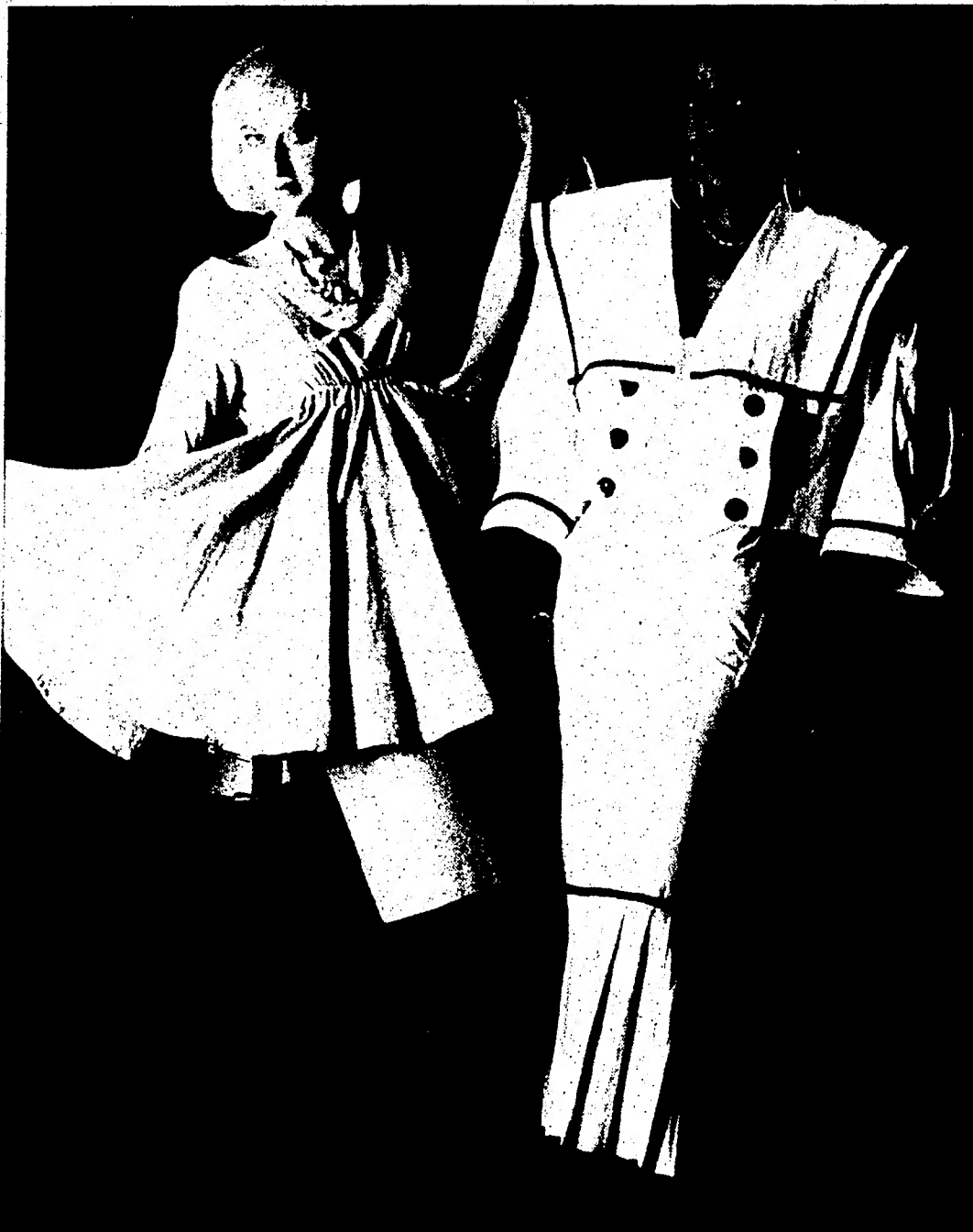
"Canadian Classics" was held recently at the Adelaide Court Theatre and showcased the spring and summer collections of Beachy Keen Swimwear, Choy Lo for KE² KA², Hoax Couture, Pas De Trois, Maca Jewellery, Miranda Lumley, Michane and Tanya Lam.

The designs ranged from frivolous to elegant and evidenced influences as diverse as turn-of-the-century England (bloomers); czarist Russia (epaulettes, etcetera), and the Navy (the requisite summer fashion influence.)

Choy Lo for KE² KA² opened the show with a brightly colored but very tailored line of separates and dresses. One hundred percent cottons and linens were used along with cotton and linen blends. A jacquard was shown in black, white and fuchsia and a fruit print was done in fuchsia, jade and blue. Linens included cream and white. The styles were all simple but interesting. A sleeveless, princess seam top with a stand up collar is new for summer and a linen, dolman-sleeved jacket with a back flap combines fashion and function. Skirts were often slim and topped with slightly oversized blouses, shirts and jackets. Pants were pleated and easy fitting.

Tanya Lam's collection offered a number of quintessentially summer garments in linen. A straight skirt and cool, sleeveless top in white was shown with a generous blue and white striped jacket. Elegant, collarless jackets were shown with straight or fuller skirts. And dresses included a cocktail style with a six inch waistband and a more casual design featuring puffed sleeves and a three inch belt.

Michane used suedes and leathers in a collection which included cuffed walking shorts with suede pocket yokes; a dress with a fitted leather bodice, suede front applique and side skirt panels; a coat dress with suede yokes in the front and back and on the pocket welts; a collarless three-quarter length lined jacket with a split centre back opening, and a number of skirts and tops.



Hoax Couture's *Empire Strikes Back* top and straight, short skirt is shown here with one of Pas De Trois nautical-inspired looks.

Pas De Trois, Hoax Couture and Miranda Lumley were perhaps the most avantgarde of the group. Lumley offered a short circle skirt; bloomers; cycle shorts; capri tights; prim shirts with swallowtail collars and three-quarter length sleeves and a long, flared dress with an empire waist line. The collection was done in 100% cotton chambray, 100% cotton gotsan and a 50/50 cotton-polyester in white interlock.

Hoax Couture featured crinolines; mandarin-collar shirt dresses; a bustle dress; an empire-waisted blouse; a bloomer skirt; a trapeze coat dress and a football dress. Pas De Trois showed crisp, nautical style garments in black, white and ivory 100% cotton.

Beachy Keen Swimwear presented revealing mailots, bikinis and two-piece swimsuits in a number of colors. Maca Jewellery offered dramatic necklaces and earrings — the perfect compliment to the summer's tailored clothing styles.

These and other fashions by promising, up and coming designers can be seen at the Canadian Fashion Alliance's showroom in the Queen's Quay Terminal.

Santana branches out

MONTREAL —

Necessity is the mother of invention. When the men at Santana couldn't find any fashionable clothes to buy, they decided to do something about it. So, Santana isn't just a jeans house anymore. It has branched out into fashion for men.

"We felt there was a real void on the market," said Joe Parasuco, one of the principals at Santana.

"We know from shopping for ourselves that there isn't much out there that has any style to it, or is

available in any color but gray or blue."

So, Santana brought out Parasuco, a sportswear line designed by Sol Parasuco.

It's for the adventurous male, and colors are hot, including pink, purple, yellow plus the basics and styling is an updated 20's look.

Parasuco includes a version of the zoot pant which is high-waisted, loose through the thigh and narrow at the ankle, and jackets such as the Baggy Bogart look and a cropped matador style.

Brilliance of colors

Faces for winter project star quality

What makes the face for winter so special? A new kind of star quality. It projects a radiance reminiscent of the great star faces of black-and-white film.

The allure of this totally new face lies first in the glow of its pale luminous skin, barely brushed with blush.

The eyes are dramatic, expressive, richly colored, glimmered with silver.

The mouth smoulders rather than dazzles, in muted down color — some pale and silvered, others deep and smoky with red as a new neutral.

It's the perfect face for the colors now moving in to the fashion picture... a memorable face the strong surge of grey, black, granite, pewter, smoke, silver and white emerging throughout the great looks of the season.

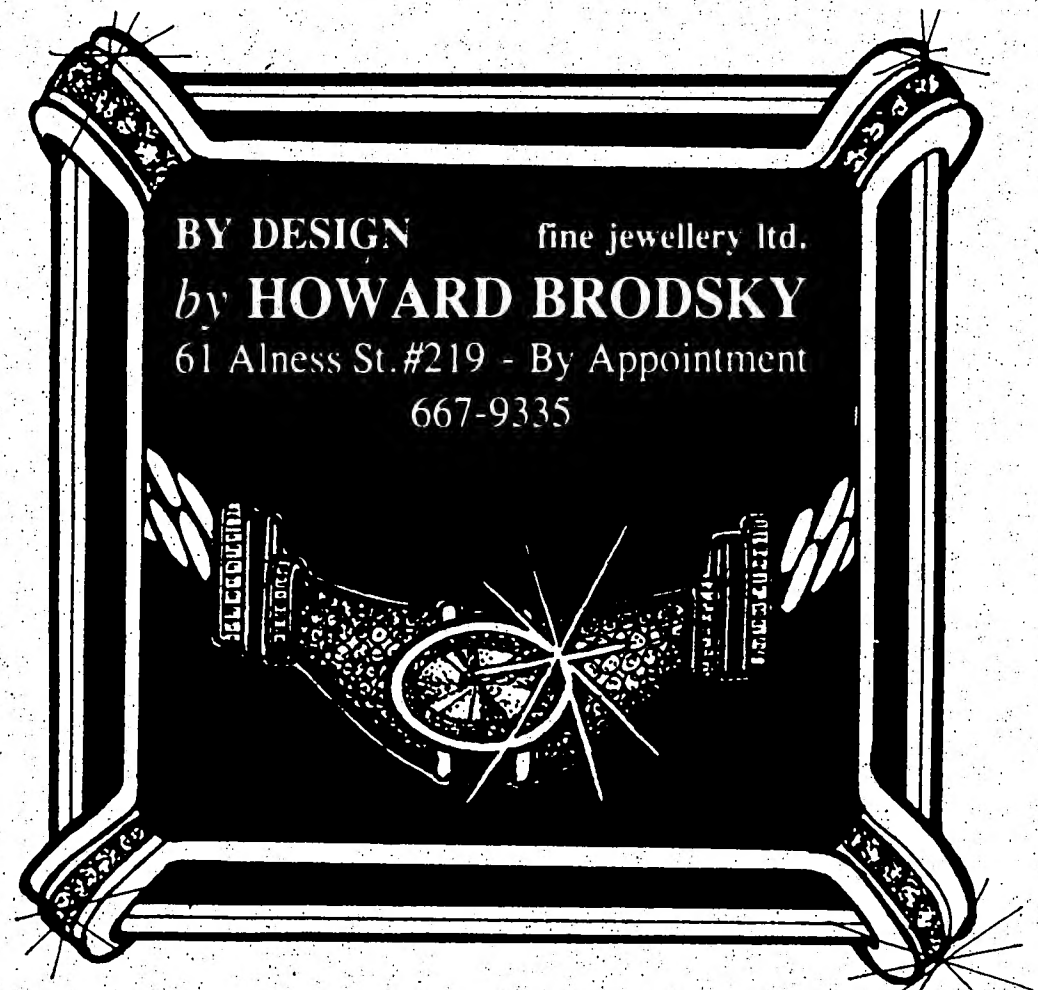
In contrast to this intensely dark palette is a range of lighter, brighter colors that add warmth and wit.

There's red, re-cycled and revitalized; purple, spice-tones, evergreen, touches of acid green, cobalt blue, snuff brown, mustard, and creamy

pastels like apricot and vanilla.

Shapes are attuned to body curves — rounded, waisted, moving in close, moving out in flares. The flat, matte texture is lustered with shine, the opulent is tempered with the austere. The short with long. The full with the slim.

In all, these are fashions with star quality, from the intensity of the black and white to the brilliance of color, from the shimmer of daytime silver to the dazzle of nighttime jewels and embroideries.



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Travel



The train to Puerto Limon cuts through high mountains and thick jungle. It's one of the great train rides in the world.

A throwback to the 30s

Riding Costa Rica's rails

By
SHELDON KIRSHNER

PUERTO LIMON, Costa Rica

Travelers who appreciate the romance of the rails and the rugged beauty of unspoiled countryside must ride the train from San Jose to Puerto Limon.

The 7-hour trip to this steamy, dilapidated Caribbean port that could very well be the setting of a Graham Greene novel is one of the great train rides in the Americas.

But the thrill doesn't end in Puerto Limon, a town with a mixed population of Spaniards, Chinese and English-speaking Blacks whose ancestors hail from Jamaica.

In Moin, a few kilometres from Puerto Limon, you can get on a boat and cruise up a waterway that penetrates deep into Costa Rica's jungle.

Six hours later, you reach Rio Colorado Lodge, where the Colorado River flows into the Caribbean Sea. The fishing around here, renowned throughout the world, attracts anglers from as far afield as Canada and Western Europe.

You begin your journey in San Jose, the capital city of this beautiful country. The train, known as Northern or Atlantic Railway, is like a throwback to the 1930s. The cars have wooden and metal floors, and the seats are red and yellow. The passengers, a fair proportion of whom appear to be tourists, crowd in, heading for right-hand seats with the best view.

Vendors selling peanuts, tortillas, fruit and drinks ply their trade, crowding the narrow aisles. One of them, a grizzled Black man, wears a Star of David on his chest.

Minutes before the train jolts into movement, a man with sun glasses begs for pennies, claiming he has cancer and is out of work. Moved by his monologue, a few passengers contribute to his self-made pension plan.

The train passes the suburbs of San Jose and soon reaches lush coffee and banana plantations. Completed in 1890, the Northern Railway was built so that coffee planters could ship their beans over the mountains to ships in Puerto Limon. When the line was laid, banana plantations were established, paving the way for the formation of the United Fruit Company, created by an American Jew of Russian origin, Samuel Zemurray.

Two hours out of San Jose, the train is high in the mountains of the Central Valley, with its scattered villages and profusion of colorful wild flowers. The air up here, cool and bracing, becomes warmer as you descend into the peaceful Orosi Valley, which bears a striking similarity to Austria.

As the train chugs over a trestle bridge some 1,000 feet above the valley floor, I stand on the steps, looking down at the foaming Revantazon River snaking through rugged gorges, the sun in my eyes.

At Turrialba, a market town famous for its luscious macadamia nuts, the train stops for over 30 minutes, letting people get on and off.

Not long after Turrialba, the landscape changes as the jungle takes over. This is thick, impenetrable jungle, and the views you get of it from the train are truly spectacular.

As you approach the outskirts of Puerto Limon, with its banana and pineapple farms, you pass places like Boston, Cuba Greek and Liverpool, a reflection of the Jamaican Blacks who settled here.

Puerto Limon has a decayed air about it, as if history has passed it by. In a sense, it has. In the early

1940s, the United Fruit Company moved its operations to the Pacific coast, plunging Puerto Limon into economic decline. It has not fully recovered from the blow.

Still, Puerto Limon is worth visiting, if only for several hours. The atmosphere here is a cross between seediness and playfulness, and the locals are exceedingly friendly. On Saturday morning, you can visit the bustling street market and see mounds of tropical fruits and vegetables like yuca, chayote, pejiyabe, sweetbread, tamarind and pineapple. At night, the town really comes alive as dimly-lit bars beckon visitors.

You'll need to stay the night in Puerto Limon if you plan to cruise up Los Canales, the series of rivers, lagoons and man-made canals that follow Costa Rica's Atlantic coastline. I booked into the Matama, a West Indies-style hostelry set in a jungle clearing, and the next morning I was ready for what turned out to be an extremely enjoyable and relaxing cruise into Costa Rica's heart of darkness.

My objective, the Rio Colorado Lodge, is inaccessible by land. You can only get there by plane or by boat. The Colorado Queen, a handsome, well-fitted yacht, took a party of us there in 6 hours.

Los Canales ranges in width from about 30 to several hundred feet. Strange as it may sound, the water is at once muddy and clear. Sometimes, it is as smooth as glass. From the prow of the Colorado Queen, you get a perfect view of the unfolding scenery: the dense jungle on each bank, the occasional village, the barges

loaded down with produce, the dugout canoes.

If you're observant, you'll see colonies of howler monkeys sitting on treetops and sloths hanging listlessly from branches. Every now and then, blue-green kingfishers glide over the water in search of fish.

The most scenic part of the trip is in Tortuguero National Park, the habitat of the green turtle. The canal narrows considerably, and the trees form a quiet jungle canopy where you'll see turtles sunning themselves on exposed rocks and dead branches, or waves of fluttering butterflies.

The lodge, which is set on stilts, is spartan but eminently comfortable. A cage in the middle of the complex is the home of two spider monkeys, macaws, parrots and one vulture.

The waters here are famous for their snook and tarpon, and a dedicated fisherman can have a wonderful time.

If fishing doesn't interest you, you can always rent a boat and explore the river; visit the neighboring village of Barra Colorado, or birdwatch. In short, you can get away from it all in Rio Colorado Lodge.

Service lets tourists experience Israel

By
CAROL GREEN

JERUSALEM (WZPS)

When former Californian Judy Goldman visited Israel with her family, the one thing that constantly bothered her was her lack of connection to the people and the land. "We were considering aliya and wanted to know what it's really like to live in Israel and raise a family here, but staying in a hotel wasn't giving me the answers to any of these questions," recalls the 34-year-old mother of four.

After seven visits over a period of 10 years, Goldman and her family finally made the decision and came on aliya in 1985. Still bothered by the country's inability to show tourists the "real Israel," Goldman then began Israel Bed and Breakfast, a home hospitality service that places tourists in homes for periods ranging from three nights to three months.

Bed and Breakfast is an outgrowth of Goldman's experiences as the wife of a Conservative rabbi in Sacramento, Calif. "Congregants would often ask us how they could spend time in Israel without paying \$100 a night and feeling no connection to the land," she recalls.

Recruiting through an ad in The Jerusalem Post, Goldman found 80 English-speaking families from around the country who were willing to act as hosts.

Knowing that the memories a tourist brings home are as much colored by his experiences with taxi drivers, waiters and innkeepers as they are by his emotions at the Western Wall, Goldman closely screens her host families.

"I also evaluate them for love of Israel," she says. "After all, I don't want tourists to come and just hear complaints about the country without love and understanding," she adds.

Part of the family

Visitors to Gesa Vernik's Jerusalem home will not only receive a bed plus continental breakfast, but will also be treated as part of the family. For Vernik, a retired schoolteacher, Bed and Breakfast is a way of reliving her childhood. "I grew up in a small resort town in the Carpathian Mountains in East Galicia. Every summer our home would turn into a hotel."

"My father was a chassid of the Belzer Rebbe so chassidim would come as well as other Jews who wanted to breathe the fresh mountain air. It was like one big family," she recalls.

Vernik, a vivacious grandmother, goes to great pains to see that her

guests come away with a good impression of Israel. She offers them advice on interesting places to see and through Bed and Breakfast, has greatly widened her circle of friends.

The opportunity to meet Israelis and at the same time save money brought Texan Penny Gray to Bed and Breakfast. Though this is her second trip to Israel — many Bed and Breakfasters are not first time visitors — this is the first opportunity she's had to see Israel as the Israelis do.

"Last time, the only Israeli I met was the tour guide," recalls the El Paso secretary. "Now, I'm living with an Israeli, riding on buses and shopping in the supermarket." But what moves her the most is the kindness of the people. "Everyone has been so helpful to me — this is something I'll remember."

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Business Outlook

Daniels pulls together team of experts

Developer-builder emphasizes community living

By
PAUL LUNGEN

TORONTO —

Not many 28-year-olds can say they build communities. But for Robert (Bob) Daniels that claim is no idle boast.

If you've heard of the Bellair or the Classics of Bellair residential developments, then you know what Daniels has been up to during the past three years. Following in his father,

Jack's, footsteps, Bob Daniels is a developer-builder. But unlike many other developers, Daniels has eschewed the "match box" styles of construction in his line of work. Instead, Daniels promises more: attractive homes, popular features, finishing touches (the same as you see in his showrooms) along with a sense of belonging to a community.

Looking to innovative builders in the Southern and Western U.S. as a

guide, Daniels has implemented an approach that, he says, others in Toronto seem to ignore.

To do so, he calls upon the skills of a team of architects, landscape architects and marketing people to put together a plan that takes advantage of every natural contour in the building site to situate the building in such a way that the residents get the chance to meet in social situations.

The Bellair — the first project in which Daniels

participated — involved the construction of luxury condominium townhouses in Erin Mills, Mississauga.

Working at that time in the Daniels Group of companies, Bob saw "a window in the market" for condominium townhouses. The company obtained enough land to build 82 units, which at that time sold from between \$75,000-\$100,000 each.

What set the townhouses apart, says Daniels, is they

were part of a package that included a common area featuring a pool, hot tub, changing rooms and barbecue site. That area, he points out, could have gone for further, cash-generating condos.

The Bellair also provided super-efficient energy saving design by using extra insulation and a heat recovery ventilator. And, with suites ranging from 1,500-1,900 sq. ft., it was one of the few developments that offered a prospective homeowner the chance to buy a townhouse.

Geared for young professionals who wanted to own their own place but who didn't want apartment life, the Bellair sold out completely, from the blueprints, within three months.

Daniels, applying his training from the Wharton School of Finance at the University of Pennsylvania, evaluated the project, surveyed the buyers and those who didn't buy, and determined there was also a market for smaller, less expensive townhouses.

The 421-unit Classics of Bellair came along a year later, on land immediately north of the Bellair. Featuring smaller units (980-1500 sq. ft.), the Classics didn't include the energy conservation designs of its forerunner, but it did emphasize community living in townhouse condominiums.

Daniels says when planning the development, the aim was not to compete with the big Toronto builders, but to find a "window" in the market that offered the opportunity to find a niche for the company.

While up to now Daniels has relied, in part, on the assistance of his father, he proudly points to a new project which he's tackling on his own (he's now president of Daniels Equities Corporation) and which is his "pride and joy" — the Dakota.

Situated at the corner of Davenport and Avenue Rd., The Dakota is described by Daniels as a "very well conceived project from the architectural



Robert Daniels

and marketing points of view."

He hopes to succeed where others have had difficulties — to sell luxury condos with close access to the Yorkville area. Geared primarily for young singles, the Dakota will house 101 condominium units. Daniels said 80% of the units were sold the first two days they were offered in August. Construction is scheduled to be completed in January, 1988, and like his other projects, he assures buyers that the features and fixtures they

saw in a temporary showroom are the ones they'll see when they move in, even if costs rise.

Daniels will not be done when the Dakota goes up. Looking to the future, he already has his plans for a 13½-acre parcel of land in Erin Mills for "a fully integrated community of 101 townhouses and 442 highrise apartments set along a ravine." The condos will run from \$70,000-\$130,000, the townhouses from \$140,000-\$160,000.

Like his other projects, Daniels promises it won't be run of the mill. The area will include "our own light standards, lattice fencing and plants" to create a neighborhood feeling.

Other projects include a housing development near the CNE and another in the downtown area. Each will follow the approach set earlier and which Daniels attributes to his father. "There's an obligation to present something of value you can be proud of," he says. "You can't just sell and run."

Sells solar generating systems

Dynamic oleh soars to top

By
SIMON GRIVER

JERUSALEM (WZPS) —

Arnold Goldman generates energy in more ways than one.

He is the president and co-founder of Luz International Ltd., the Jerusalem-based enterprise that has signed power-purchase agreements with the Southern California Edison Co. for the installation of 19 large solar electric generating systems. When they are fully operational, these facilities will produce electricity for 270,000 homes.

Goldman, 43, is a man of deceptive appearances. His soft-spoken, reserved and almost bashful manner make him different than the usual type of aggressive personality one associates with an entrepreneur whose company has annual sales of over \$100 million.

Goldman's friends, colleagues and employees unanimously hail him as a genius. He was born in Rhode Island and graduated in engineering from the University of California. In the early 1970s he founded a company called Lexitron, which developed and marketed the first word processor, long before IBM developed theirs.

Despite the lure of more fame and fortune, Goldman, his wife Karen and their three children packed their bags in 1977 and immigrated to Israel. "I had been writing a book for 18 years," recalls Goldman. "When we finished marketing the first generation word processor, my company asked me to make a 4-year commitment for the next project, but I declined. I wanted to finish my book and Israel seemed the natural place to do it."

The book is a philosophical treatise tracing the connection between Jewish history and thought, mathematics, and the ethical and social goals of industrial production. While it never became a bestseller, several hundred copies were printed and Goldman distributes them to friends who show an interest in the topic. In the book's conclusion,



Arnold Goldman, president and co-founder of Luz International Limited, poses in front of a solar collector made by his company.

Goldman outlined several ideas which could make Israel wealthy; one of them is solar energy.

After Arnold completed the book, the Goldmans decided to stay in Israel. "We found Israel to be a rewarding experience," says Goldman. "Despite the language and cultural differences, we felt a connection to the community and the country. In Los Angeles we had essentially been anonymous, especially as Jews."

In 1979, Goldman started to put his theories into practice by establishing Luz together with Patrick Francois, an immigrant from France. The company is named after Luz, the place, according to Genesis, where Jacob dreamed of a ladder ascending to heaven. The combination of Goldman's scientific wizardry and Francois' financial skills have made Luz the success it is today.

The technology involves a series of special mirrors which focus sunlight on a central pipe through which fluid is fed. The heat of this liquid, an oil-like heat transfer medium, is used to boil water. This creates steam, which drives power-generating turbines.

The commercial know-how which is equally important, involves third party financing. Luz sells each solar electricity generating power plant to a group of private investors who then contract with Luz to manage it. These investors include First Interstate Bank of California and Great Western Savings.

Goldman concedes that

in the Negev.

Many of Luz's investors are American Jews, but Goldman insists that they commit their money on the basis of good business sense, not sentiment. He does, however, admit that during the difficult formative years, those investors had more patience than non-Jewish businessmen might have had.

The only personal cloud in Luz's success, for Goldman, is the fact that he must spend large amounts of time abroad, away from his family. "But in general, Israel has enabled me to spend more time with my family," he says. "It has changed our lifestyle. We are now observant Jews, keeping Shabbat and Kashruth. We have had two more children, something we would not have done if we had stayed in the States. I have become more of a conversationalist."

"In America, few people were interested in my ideas about Jewish philosophy. Now I have a circle of friends who share my interests."

Goldman recalls that when his family decided to move to Israel, his friends thought he was crazy and many members of his family were hostile. His business success has helped change these attitudes.

Goldman bears no grudge against the Israeli government for not investing in a Luz project until seeing the technology succeed in California. The ministry of energy and the Israel Electric Corp., are now negotiating with Luz for a power-purchase agreement, for a 25mw system

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Business Outlook

Chain's sales are food for thought

MONTREAL — Steinberg Inc., the giant food and general merchandise conglomerate, reported a 6.3% increase in sales and operating revenue to over \$4.4 billion for the fiscal year ending July 26, 1986.

And in the first quarter of the 1987 fiscal year, the Montreal-based company's sales and operating revenue reached slightly over \$925 million, an increase of \$30 million, or 3.3%, over a comparable period in 1986.

Despite the increase in sales and revenue, net earnings for 1986 dropped to about \$39 million from 1985's total of \$74 million. The 1985 total was attributable in part to an after tax gain of \$25.2 million from the sale of two parcels of land in the United States, said Melvyn Dobrin, company chairman.

The bulk of the company's business came from its Canadian retail food operations, according to Irving Ludmer, president and chief executive officer of Steinberg.

Despite operating 16 fewer stores than in the previous quarter, sales jumped 1.5% to \$643 million, he stated.

Ludmer, whose association with Steinberg goes back to 1957 when he worked as a maintenance engineer, told the company's annual meeting "our financial strength puts us in a good position for growth." He noted an "increasing level of capital expenditures for modernizations and expansions."

Steinberg will continue to convert traditional supermarkets to its "Super Market" concept, featuring full-service meat and fish counters, cheese boutiques, in-store bakeries and a wide assortment of fresh produce, the company announced.

In the coming year, Steinberg will introduce innovative retailing concepts in the Quebec market, including food and drug combination stores and 24-hour convenience stores with self-serve gasoline available under the "Le Relais Vingt-Quatre" name.

Despite the optimistic outlook for 1987, Ludmer noted the 15 stores operated by the Miracle Mart subsidiary experienced a 2.5% decline in sales during the first quarter of 1987. The five stores operated by Miracle Mart under its "M" concept, on the other hand, experienced a sales growth of 6.8%.

The company, which started out as a small food store in Montreal 69 years ago, today operates supermarkets, department stores, combination stores, restaurant units and food processing plants, and has recently established a wholesaling division to supply goods and services to Steinberg stores and affiliates in Quebec and Ontario.

Steinberg's subsidiary, the Ivanhoe real estate group, owns and operates 101 developed properties, including shopping centres and other retail properties.

Altogether, as of Oct. 18, the Steinberg "family" of companies operated 197 food supermarkets and combination stores (down from 212 the previous year); 67 Vaidi limited assortment grocery stores; 24 department stores; 158 restaurants and snack bars; three Jadis/Basics food-warehouse outlets; and 22 large food and general merchandise stores in the U.S.

Dobrin told the annual meeting that despite increasing competition for the food store dollar, Steinberg is on target in meeting its "strategic priorities" set in 1984: reviewing assets, entering the wholesale market and adapting to a multi-format retailing approach.

Dobrin, who has held several top executive posi-

tions with Steinberg, joined the company in 1950 as a store clerk. He is also a member of the board of Montreal Trust Company and several of Steinberg's subsidiaries. He is a governor of the International Board of the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel, he serves as chairman of the Foundation for the YM-YWHA of Montreal and serves also as a Heritage Governor of the United Talmud Torahs.

Ludmer, 51, in addition to serving as Steinberg president and chief executive officer of Ivanhoe Inc., is also a member of the board of the Chamber of Commerce of Canada and is a member of the Ordre des ingenieurs du Quebec and of the International Council of Shopping Centres.

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OBITUARIES

Brown, Ethel on December 9, 1986, late of 636 Bedford Park Ave.

Burstein, Sima on December 12, 1986, late of Baycrest Hospital.

Cooper, Sam on December 10, 1986, late of 3635 Bathurst St., #2.

English, Marvin on December 12, 1986, late of 100 Antibes Dr., PH 1.
Golden, Ruth on December 9, 1986, late of 569 Sheppard Ave. W., #412.

Greenspan, Sam on December 9, 1986, late of 100 Canyon Ave., #204.

Jacobs, Morris on December 14, 1986, late of 569 Sheppard Ave. W., #406.

Naiman, Mary on December 14, 1986, late of 116 Haddington Ave.

Wisleski, Kalman on December 11, 1986, late of 6 Delia Ct.

Steeles-College Memorial Chapel

OBITUARIES

Jack Szarf on Dec. 5/86, late of 14 Granada Cr.

Maria Salomonczyk on Dec. 5/86, late of 339 Wilmington Ave.

Eli Neiger on Dec. 9/86, late of 65 Springarden Ave.

Julius Weiss on Dec. 6/86, late of 25 Evanson Dr.

Morris Schartup on Dec. 6/86, late of 1530 N. East 191st St., N. Miami.

Sheldon Ross on Dec. 8/86, late of 685 Strathmeyer St.

Fred Stone on Dec. 9/86, late of 403 Clinton St.

Jennie Levy on Dec. 8/86, late of 3560 Bathurst St.

Lily Mills on Dec. 10/86, late of 1925 Steeles Ave. E.

Mark Shuster on Dec. 11/86, late of 520 Fairlawn Ave.

Nathan Cappe on Dec. 11/86, late of 1555 Finch Ave. E., PH#1.

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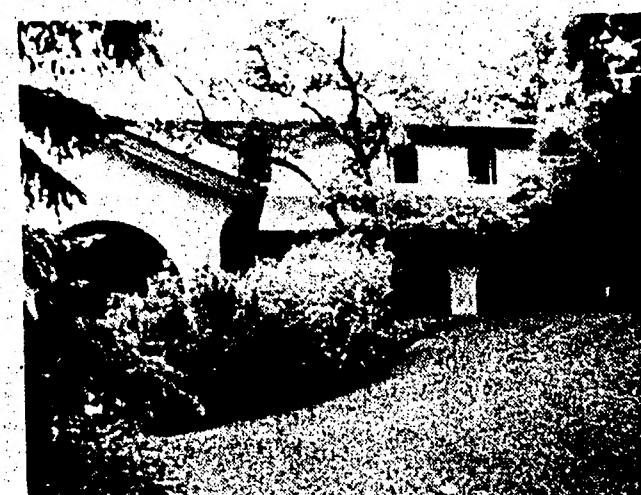
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Business Outlook

Study examines employers' biggest concerns

Personnel problems frustrate manufacturers

TORONTO —

A research study commissioned by Lavenhol & Horwath reveals that finding and motivating competent personnel is an even greater problem than financial considerations for many Canadian manufacturers.

The survey, based on telephone interviews with a random sample of 250 owners of mid-market sized businesses (revenues from \$2-\$10 million) asked respondents to name the single biggest problem encountered in running their own business.

One third (33%) of the total sample reported that personnel-related prob-

lems, including "finding qualified/competent people" and "employee performance problems with less productive employees" are the most serious problems facing the daily operation of their own business. Manufacturers appear to be most frustrated by personnel problems with 37% of those surveyed indicating this area to be the most severe problem they face.

Financial problems, including "shortage of capital," cash flow/shortage of liquid assets" and "accounts receivable/collecting money from accounts" were cited by 23% of manufacturers as the second ma-

nor problem, compared to only 19% of the total sample revealing finance to be a concern.

Although the total sample surveyed had indicated recruitment of good personnel to be one of the most troublesome tasks, they rated the value of employment agencies to be "fair" with only 27% making use of these services.

A total of 5 industry sectors participated in the survey and respondents were presented with a number of management tasks that managers and owners sometimes have difficulty with. The findings indicate that the level of difficulty with

management tasks varies from industry to industry.

As a group, manufacturers are acutely aware of the problems their industry faces with marketing, sales and competition. Although 18% of manufacturers in the sample acknowledge that marketing is a serious problem, when asked what management tasks they have the most difficulty with, they ranked "competition with larger companies" and "distinguish products from competitors' products" as only somewhat difficult (2.2 on a 4 point scale).

Manufacturers also report having little or no difficulty in understanding the

real needs of their customers, nor in the distribution of their products to the customer. The most visible difficulty was reported to be recruiting and motivating personnel. Although only 4% of manufacturers indicate that providing information required by government regulations is a problem, they reveal this to be a somewhat difficult task, with a rating of 2.6 on a 4 point scale.

Generally speaking, less than one in two entrepreneurs (44%) make use of a written strategic plan for their business. "In contrast to this finding, over half (51%) of manufacturers surveyed indicated that they do use a strategic plan. Manufacturers may have a more disciplined approach which may be as a result of their basic understanding of their customer needs, and their ability to deliver their products to the user," says Eric Slavens, a partner with Lavenhol & Horwath.

"Manufacturers also appear to be the group most

likely to turn to outside professional sources for advice" adds Slavens. Although only 14% of the total sample surveyed indicated the use of an outside board of directors, manufacturers are the group most likely to have a board (20%). They also rate usefulness of an outside board as 3.8 on a 4 point rating scale.

For advice on a serious business decision, manufacturers indicated that, of the various professional business advisors available to small business, they would be most likely to consult their accountant or lawyer. The degree of reliance placed on these two outside sources of advice was also unusually high, rating the helpfulness of an accountant at 3.5, and a lawyer at 3.2 on a 4 point scale.

Manufacturers also tend to be the largest group of family-owned and operated businesses. Of the manufacturers surveyed, 58% reported that his business is family

owned, while 66% of this same group stated that family members were on staff and active in the operation of the business.

When asked about management succession objectives, only 44% indicated they intend to keep ownership in the family. Surprisingly, despite the active participation of family members, only 22% indicated the existence of a written succession plan with 15% having shared the details of the plan with other family members.

The ability to be organized is not only reflected in the daily operation of their business. Manufacturers are also well organized with their own personal financial affairs, with over 63% reporting they have an estate plan in place.

Lavenhol & Horwath is a Canadian-owned partnership of chartered accountants and management consultants. The research study was conducted by Thompson Lightstone and Company, an independent marketing and research company.

Stark heads gem group

RAMAT GAN —

Hanoch Stark of Hargem Ltd. has been elected president of the Israel Emerald Cutters Association succeeding Efraim Tick of Gem Tick Ltd., the association has announced.

Head of the research and development committee of the Cutters Association for many years, Stark is described as an innovator of precious stones processing methods, and responsible for a number of international patents in the production of gemstones. He is a director of the International Colored Gemstone Association.

Stark founded Hargem Ltd., one of Israel's major emerald producers and exporters, with Ben-Zion Harel in 1969.

The executive committee of the Emerald Cutters Association will also include Israel Eliezri of Colgem Ltd. and Yonah Ben-Yonah, head of the company of that name. Public

relations chairman of the International Colored Gemstone Association of which he is a founding member, Eliezri is a geologist who has inspected many of the world's major gemstone mining sites.

Veteran Israeli gemstone

manufacturer, Yonah Ben-Yonah was foreman of the first emerald polishing plant established by the Israel government in the early 50s. He is said to have trained a generation of gem cutting specialists here.

The announcement of the new leadership of the

association, it was noted, comes in the wake of the renewal of full production in the branch with the acquisition of large stocks of quality emeralds of all sizes from Zambian sources, and influx of overseas buyers of polished goods in the Israel market.

Real estate company offers 7-year mortgage at 11 1/4 %

TORONTO —

Seven-year Pre-Approved Royal LePage Mortgage terms will be available at 11 1/4%, the company has announced.

"Unlike the recently introduced 10-year mortgage term at 11 1/2%, the Royal LePage rate is offered on both conventional and National Housing Act (NHA) mortgages," says Oswald Jurock, president of the

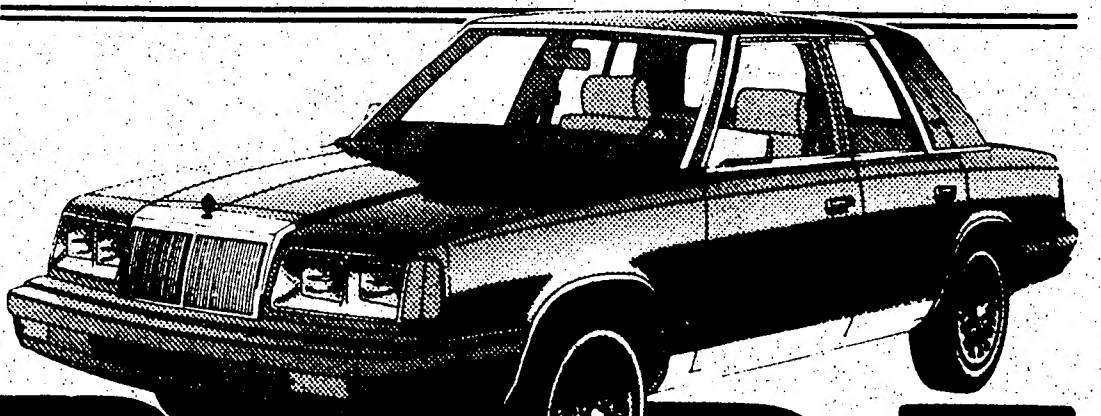
company's residential real estate services.

"A conventional mortgage, which usually covers up to 75% of the appraised value of the property, cannot be obtained with the 10-year mortgage plan."

"In addition, with an NHA or high-ratio mortgage, the mortgagor is required to pay an additional sum of between 1 and 3% on the amount borrowed," he said.

The Royal LePage Pre-Approved Mortgage is also available in a 5-year term at 11 1/4%.

The pre-approved mortgage was first introduced in Canada last year by Royal LePage. The mortgage differs from traditional financing because Royal LePage residential real estate offices commit to providing the mortgage before their customers buy or sell a home.

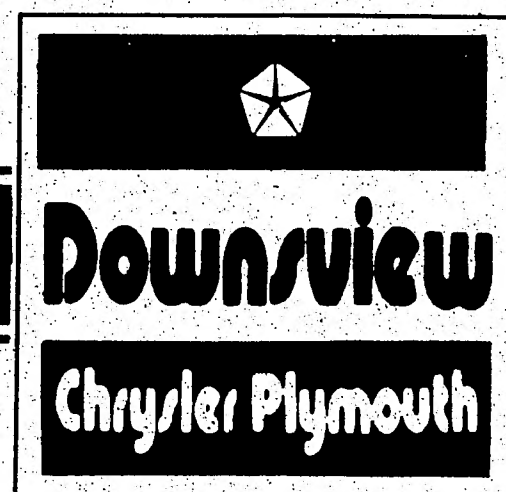


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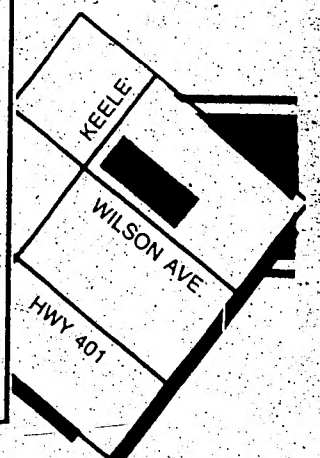
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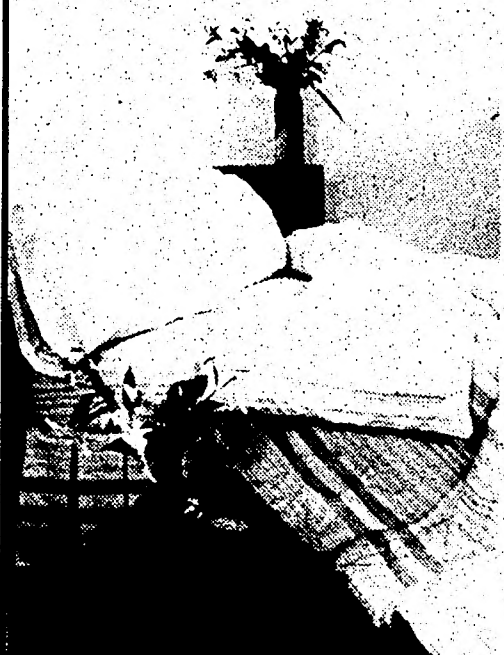
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